EARLY HISTORY

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

FROM 1866 TO 1880 INCLUSIVE

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Proceedings

of the

Annual and Semi-Annual Encampments

of the

Department of Ohio
Grand Army of the Republic

For the First Fourteen
Years of Its Existence

Compiled and Prepared by
T. D. McGillicuddy, Past Asst. Adj. General,
Department of Ohio, G. A. R.

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INTRODUCTION.

This volume contains the hitherto unpublished proceedings of Fourteen Annual and Six Semi-annual Encampments of the Department of Ohio, representing the first fourteen years of the life of the Grand Army in Ohio, from 1866 to 1880, inclusive.

These records of the early Encampments, herein printed, are not as complete as they should be, but probably as complete as can be obtained from the imperfect and scant material in the archives of the Department.

For the fourteen years prior to 1881 the reports of Post Officers, Department Officers and Encampment Proceedings, were not compiled and printed in any permanent form, and, consequently, through annual packing and shipping, from place to place, as Headquarters of the Department changed by the election of new Commanders, they became, many of them, lost in transportation, worn out or destroyed.

The absence of this early history of the Grand Army in Ohio, from our permanent records, has been a source of regret, and a sense of loss to the Comradeship of the Department during all the past years. To have at last obtained, even so much as is herein printed, is a fortunate circumstance for which every comrade should feel very thankful.

When we consider how imperfect would be the History of the Grand Army in this Department, with the history of the first fourteen years of its existence left out, we can understand what a debt of gratitude we owe to the one whose faithful and diligent work hunted them out from scattered boxes and bundles and musty records and put them in shape for printing in book form.

The Comrade who did this arduous work and to whom we are indebted for collecting and preparing the manuscript for this publication was Captain T. D. McGillicuddy of Cleveland, who was Assistant Adjutant General of the Department in 1880 and 1881.

Comrade McGillicuddy died August 6th, 1911. Had he lived but a few months longer he would have seen the publication of this volume, a consummation he had looked forward to for many years.

As far back as 1886 Comrade McGillicuddy began his work of hunting up these unpublished records. Every old box and bundle containing Grand Army records that he could find he delved into. He searched the files of newspapers and manuscripts, gathering information wherever it was possible, until finally he collected a tolerably complete account of these first fourteen years of our Grand Army History in this Department.

As the Proceedings of each Department were gathered and put in proper shape, he had them printed in "The Ohio Soldier," a weekly paper

or magazine published in Chillicothe, by the late Comrade John T. Raper. These newspaper publications constitute the principal part of the manuscript from which this book is published.

Sometime during the early part of 1866, exact date not known, Gen. B. F. Potts of Carrollton, was appointed Provisional Commander of the Department, and began at once the organization of Posts.

Comrade McGillicuddy, in a communication on the subject, states that the date of the formation of the first Posts in Ohio cannot now be definitely determined. In the Roster of Posts as remembered and published in December, 1867, he says, No. 1 was assigned to the Post at Carrollton, and No. 2, at Zanesville.

Capt. Henry C. Howe of Toledo, and Col. B. F. Hawkes of North Fairfield, were detailed as Aides by Gen. B. F. Potts to muster Posts in the State. They began a tour of the State and organized several Posts each week, so that when the Convention to form a permanent Department assembled at Columbus, January 30th, 1867, Gen. Potts was enabled to report that 135 Posts had been chartered, but the number of membership was not given.

The number of Delegates present at this first Encampment, or Convention, as it was called, was 88.

By the close of 1868 the number of Posts had been increased to 303. About this time, however, causes began to operate that seriously effected the progress of the Order throughout the country. In 1870 about 917 members were reported in the Ohio Department. In 1873, nineteen Posts and 800 members, and in 1875 there were but eight Posts and 368 members.

Of the posts organized in 1866, but two remained, Forsyth Post No. 15, Toledo, and Trescott No. 10, Salem. Of the 106 Posts organized in 1867, Buckley Post No. 12, Akron, alone survived. Those organized in 1868 only two remained, Veteran Post No. 5, National Military Home, Dayton, and Bowers Post No. 28, Geneva.

For a number of years following the commencement of the decline, the Ohio Department was represented by only two Delegates at the National Encampment.

The order began to take on new life about 1880 and '81 and continued to increase so rapidly in Posts and membership, that in 1890 it reported 736 Posts with 49,011 members. Since 1881 the records of the Department have been printed in permanent form each year, and will be continued to be printed so long as the organization is in existence, so that, with this volume we will have a pretty complete and accurate history of the Grand Army in this Department from beginning to ending.

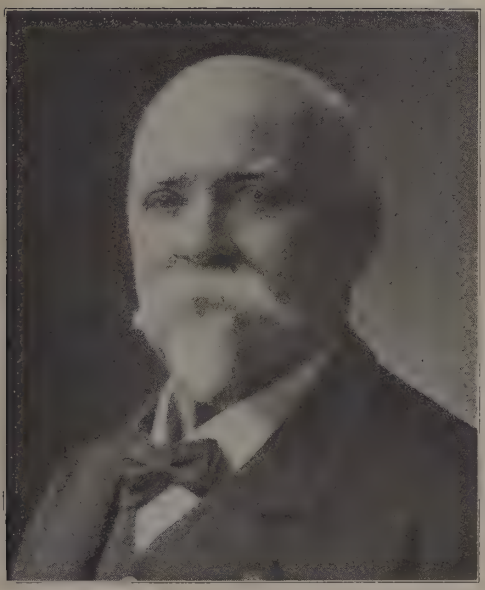
The reader in scanning this early history of our order in Ohio, cannot help but recognize its historical value. It contains the names of many honorable Comrades, whose devotion to the Order in its days of poverty and adversity are worthy of the recognition this publication gives. It will be noticed that the most of the prominent patrons of our Order, in its early days have gone to the other shore.

It is pleasing to note, however, that there are still living a few of the men who helped to found and keep alive the Order in the dark days of its early beginnings, and that many of these are yet active workers and faithful Comrades in the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic.

To the memory of the noble men, who wrought so well and faithfully and so persistently against adverse conditions in the early history of our great organization; and to the cause of History and knowledge, this volume is dedicated by the comradeship of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Ohio.

W. S. Matthews,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Columbus, Ohio, October 15th, 1911.



CAPTAIN T. D. MCGILLICUDDY.

CAPTAIN T. D. McGILLICUDDY.

Capt. T. D. McGillicuddy was born in Louisville, Ky., in 1835. His family moved to Cleveland when he was 10 years old. In 1856 he went to Hannibal, Mo., where he was engaged in railroading up to the outbreak of the Civil War. Enlisting in Co. B, Marion Battalion, United States Reserve Corps, he was unanimously chosen first Lieutenant of the Company.

Under the command of Gen. Nathaniel Lyon, he participated in many engagements from the capture of Camp Jackson and the fighting in streets of St. Louis, May 10, 1861, to Wilson's Creek, August 10th of the same year. Capt. McGillicuddy was also with Gen. Sherman in his march to the sea and was active at the Battles of Shiloh and Corinth.

On October 5th, 1861, he was commissioned Captain of Co. K, Fiftieth Illinois. The regiment was assigned to the army of the Tennessee. He was severely wounded in an encounter with Roddy's rebel Cavalry in March, 1864. Following the War the Captain settled for a time in Akron, becoming a charter member of Buckley Post No. 12, G. A. R., and later holding all the important offices of the Post. In 1897 he returned to Cleveland and was transferred to Memorial Post, of which he was Historian.

He was appointed Assistant Adjutant General of the Department of Ohio, G. A. R. in 1880.

The Grand Army veteran achieved a name for himself in organizing Grand Army Posts all over the country. Together with Major Clemmer, the Cleveland soldier represented Ohio at Chicago in 1876 at the first Grand Army Encampment. He died August 6th, 1911, at his home in Cleveland, Ohio.

GENERAL B. F. POTTS.

General B. F. Potts, of Carrollton, Ohio, was appointed Provisional Commander of this Department in 1866. The exact date is unknown.

General Potts had entered the service, September 4th, 1861, as Captain, Company F, 32d Ohio Volunteers; was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, November 21, 1862; Colonel, December 25, 1862, and Brigadier General, January 16, 1865. Was brevetted Major General, March 13, 1865, and mustered out of service, January 16, 1866. In 1870 he was appointed Governor of Montana, and so served for twelve years. He died at Helena, Montana, June 17, 1887.

DEPARTMENT HISTORY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, HELD IN COLUMBUS, OHIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1867.

The convention of the Department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, assembled at the hall of the Columbus Vedettes. Comrade B. F. Potts, Provisional Department Commander, assumed the chair, and called the convention to order. Upon taking the chair, Comrade Potts made a few remarks, the substance of which was as follows. He said:

"We have met in convention for the first time in the history of this department. The order has had a temporary existence in this state for about six months, and we now come together for the purpose of giving to the order a permanent organization. We have given the work as much time and attention as it was possible for us to do, and we have been enabled to establish in the state 135 encampments. The organization now exists in nearly every county in the state. Much more could have been accomplished but for delay caused by failure of the general headquarters to furnish the new rules and regulations, and the amended work and ritual. Months have elapsed since these were adopted and we have not yet received a copy."

Comrade Homer C. Jones was appointed secretary.

COMMITTEES.

The following named Comrades were appointed a committee on credentials: D. W. C. Shockley, C. H. Grosvenor and S. T. McMorran.

On motion of Comrade E. F. Schneider a committee of one from each congressional district represented was appointed a committee on resolutions. The committee was as follows:

First district, George Christ; 2nd, D. W. C. Shockley; 3rd, Collin Ford; 4th, David Putnam; 5th, W. M. Ampt; 6th, John M. Barrere; 7th, D. W. H. Day; 8th, Isaac Gass; 9th, W. H. Gibson; 10th, J. K. Hamilton; 11th, Oliver Wood, 12th, James Taylor; 13th, H. B. Banning; 14th, L. D. Griswold; 15th, N. H. Van Vorhees; 16th, S. F. Dean; 17th, E. F. Schneider; 18th, George L. Childs; 19th, Joseph Bruff.

The committee on credentials submitted the following report:

LIST OF DELEGATES.

SIR COMMANDER: — Your committee has examined the credentials of the following named comrades, and find them duly qualified as delegates to this convention:

Comrades C. J. Parmenter, D. B. Corwin, Howard Dunlevy, P. O'Connel, Geo. W. Myers, F. W. Butterfield, Collin Ford, James W. Ross, Frank Huston, A. F. Medford, J. A. Saunders, A. W. Arnold, J. P. Wingett, W. H. Morningstar, David Putnam, Moses R. Braily, D. W. H. Day, D. W. C. Shockley, Geo. Christ, J. M. Barrere, Luther Brown, A. G. Cassill, Amzi Kingler, Perry Stewart, H. D. John, James E. Campbell, John W. Cline, Andrew S. Frazer, M. Sullivan, C. F. Manderson, Isaac Gass, M. W. Warden, Charles E. Merritt, John H. Lukens, W. H. Garrett, John A. Chase, J. Kent Hamilton, G. W. Collier, Thomas C. Morris, William Steadman, Joseph Bruff, Thomas L. Young, H. B. Banning, W. H. McCoy, John Carlin, W. M. Ampt, J. E. McGreagor, A. Emering, Hugh McQueston, W. G. Galloway, J. S. Clemmer, J. D. Porter, J. B. Potter, Oliver Wood, James A. Harper, J. D. Griswold, Geo. S. Lester, Richard B. Crawford, S. T. McMorran, C. H. Grosvenor, E. F. Schneider, Andrew L. Holmes, Israel Murdock, D. W. Houghton, Geo. T. Gast, H. C. Jones, T. D. McGillicuddy, T. J. Somter, H. R. McConnell, J. W. Callett, Joseph C. Brand, A. C. Duval, W. R. Warnock, W. H. Nesle, Foster Neil, William Tell, W. H. Backus, John H. Stull, J. S. Kellogg, W. P. VanDorn, James M. Ayers, W. L. Shilder, Dr. W. W. Mills, J. Breckbill, James Taylor, Samuel F. Dean, James Barnett and J. H. Mitchell.

Very respectfully submitted,

D. W. C. SHOCKLEY,
C. H. GROSVENOR,
S. T. MCMORRAN,
Committee.

The report was received and the committee continued.

The following named comrades were appointed a committee to wait upon the officers of the railroads and endeavor to have them return delegates free: Comrades D. W. H. Day, J. H. Mitchell, H. B. Banning, C. H. Grosvenor, M. R. Braily. The following resolution was submitted:

Resolved, That all members of the Grand Army in good standing here present be entitled to seats in this convention and to participate in all its proceedings except voting.

Referred to committee on credentials.

The convention then took a recess until 2 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The committee upon credentials submitted the following additional report.

SIR COMMANDER: — Your committee upon credentials in addition to their former report beg leave to submit the following: Your committee, after having carefully examined the first section of article 8 of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, are of the opinion that said article and section above referred to fully contemplates that each Post in the State of Ohio is entitled to at least one delegate.

Signed. S. T. MCMORRAN,
D. W. C. SHOCKLEY.

Comrade C. H. Grosvenor submitted the following as the views of the minority of the committee:

SIR COMMANDER:—The undersigned from the committee on credentials, to whom was referred the question of representation in this convention, beg leave to report that in my opinion section 1, Art. 8 of the constitution of the Grand Army of the Republic does not control the qualifications of delegates in this convention. I find that the majority of the Posts represented in this convention do not comprise twenty-five members each, and to say that these Posts should not be represented in this convention would have the effect of depriving the majority of the order in Ohio of representation, and I therefore respectfully offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the following shall be the basis of representation in this convention, to-wit: Each post duly organized within the state of Ohio, shall be entitled to one vote, and one in addition for every fraction of more than 12 members over and above 25.

Resolved, That all members of the Grand Army of the Republic in good standing now present be authorized to participate in the proceedings of this convention, but shall only be permitted to vote under the provisions of resolution No. 1, and that whenever any delegate shall demand it, the vote shall be taken by calling the Posts represented here by congressional districts.

Signed. C. H. GROSVENOR.

The majority report of the committee was then adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Comrade E. F. Schneider, of committee on resolutions, submitted the following report:

The soldiers of the Department of Ohio G. A. R., in convention assembled, do hereby resolve as follows:

1st. *Resolved,* That we endorse the resolutions expressive of the principles and purposes of the Grand Army of the Republic adopted by its recent National convention at Indianapolis.

2d. *Resolved,* That the Grand Army of the Republic is not organized to make nominations for office, nor as a mere secret combination to further the ambition of political aspirants; but its purpose is to promote the cause of active loyalty, and to advance by all legitimate and proper influences the general welfare and interests of the soldiers lately in the United States Army; and to secure the attainment of these ends we invite the co-operation and support of all patriotic and liberal minded citizens.

3d. *Resolved,* That to refute calumny and prevent misapprehension, we hereby declare that while the Grand Army of the Republic has its secret ceremonies and means of reception, such as are wisely and properly adopted by all similar societies to increase their usefulness and efficiency, it attempts no concealments as to its existence or membership, and has no objects that it is not ready on all proper occasions to *avow,*

and, that conscious of the justice of our principles, we will inscribe them upon our banner so plainly that all may know and understand them.

4th. *Resolved,* That the benevolent objects of the Grand Army of the Republic are to care particularly for the widows and orphans of our fallen comrades; to aid in securing employment to the disabled heroes of the war, and to secure by every means in its power the interests of those who during the past contest for the supremacy of the Government united in pledging their lives and their means for its defense.

5th. *Resolved,* That we earnestly request our Senators and Representatives in the Ohio Legislature to appropriate a sufficient amount of money from the unexpended soldiers' relief fund to publish the record of Ohio soldiers in the late rebellion, now being prepared by the Adjutant General of the State.

6th. *Resolved,* That the trustees of the National Soldiers' Home should take immediate measures for the location of the home as provided for by law, and that we recommend its location in the state of Ohio.

7th. *Resolved,* That the Congress of the United States should immediately recognize the just claim of the soldiers of the war of 1812 by granting pensions to the survivors of that heroic struggle.

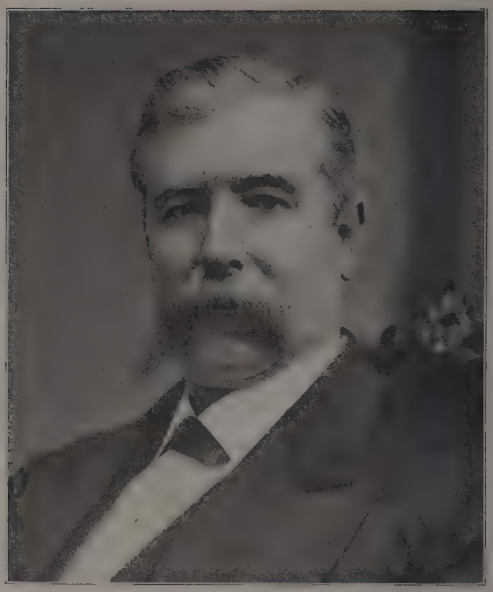
8th. *Resolved,* That it is the sense of this convention that the Ohio Military Agency, at Washington, D. C., should not be discontinued, at least until Congress shall, by effective legislation, have so limited and regulated claim agents that the soldiers shall not be subject to fraud and extortions; and we respectfully urge upon Congress the immediate necessity of such legislation.

9th. *Resolved,* That we urge upon Congress the justice of passing the bill introduced by Gen. Schenck for the *equalization* of Government bounties, and in this connection we would recommend that provisions be made for the payment of bounties due soldiers who have lost their discharges.

10th. *Resolved,* That the interests of the disabled soldiers of the country who are its pensioners demand that the office of Pension Agent should not be a mere foot-ball for politicians; that frequent changes for mere partisan purposes cause delay, expense, and inconvenience to the pensioner; and further, we deem it particularly appropriate that these positions should be filled by maimed soldiers who are competent and worthy.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, the resolutions were unanimously adopted as read.

On motion the convention proceeded to make nominations for officers for the ensuing year. On motion it was ordered that a majority of all the votes cast be necessary to secure a choice. General William H. Gibson was invited to address the convention at its evening session, and the convention took a recess until 7 o'clock p. m.



GENERAL THOMAS L. YOUNG.

General Thomas L. Young was born December 14, 1832, near Belfast, Ireland. He came to America with his parents, and when not quite sixteen years of age, in the last year of the war with Mexico, enlisted in the regular army and there served ten years, five years as Orderly Sergeant, 3d United States Artillery.

In 1859 he went to Cincinnati and at the breaking out of the rebellion was Assistant Superintendent of the House of Refuge.

On March 18, 1861, twenty-five days before the rebels fired on Sumter, he wrote Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, offering his service to aid in organizing the volunteer forces.

In August, 1861, he was appointed Captain of the Fremont Body-Guard, and so served until January 1st, 1862. In August, 1862, he was Commissioned Captain, 118 Ohio Volunteers, and afterwards Major. He was promoted to be Lieutenant Colonel, February, 1863, and Colonel, April 1864. Was discharged for disability, September 14, 1864. Brevetted Brigadier General to date March 13, 1865. He took a very active interest in political affairs, and held a number of important offices; was Governor of the State, 1877-78. He died July 20, 1888.

Under General Young's administration 106 Posts were chartered, and when districts were abolished, all the Posts of the Department were renumbered.

EVENING SESSION ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The convention reassembled at 7:30 and proceeded at once to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result: Grand Commander, Comrade Thomas L. Young. The election of Comrade Thomas L. Young was made unanimous, and on being called upon he responded in an eloquent manner. Senior Vice Grand Commander, Comrade H. B. Banning; Junior Vice Grand Commander, Comrade James Barnett; Assistant Adjutant General, Comrade B. F. Hawkes; Assistant Quartermaster General, Comrade Wesley C. Hickman; Council of Administration, Comrades W. R. Warnock, M R. Brailey, J. W. Lindsey, D. W. C. Shockley, C. F. Manderson. On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, the election of the several officers was made unanimous

The following resolution was presented by Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this convention tender to Comrade B. F. Potts, the retiring Department Commander, the thanks of this convention for his faithful and valuable services in organizing the Grand Army of the Republic in this state, and for the able and earnest manner in which he has discharged generally the important duties of his high position.

On motion of Comrade C. H. Grosvenor the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this convention cordially endorse "The Great Republic" newspaper, the national organ of the army, published at Washington, D. C., and we recommend it to the patronage of the members of the Grand Army throughout the state.

On motion of Comrade Collin Ford the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this convention tender its thanks to the general staff officers who have done so much for the order, in its organization.

Comrade W. H. Gibson was then introduced, and made a telling speech, calling forth frequent outbursts of applause.

Remarks were also made by Comrades J. Warren Keifer, H. B. Banning, Thomas L. Young and others.

The address of the Assistant Adjutant General is: General B. G. Hawkes, North Fairfield, Huron county, Ohio.

The convention adjourned sine die.

PROCEEDINGS OF SECOND ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF OHIO, JANUARY 10, 1868 — ADDRESS OF GEN. THOMAS L. YOUNG, GRAND COMMANDER.

The annual meeting of the Ohio Association of the Grand Army of the Republic was commenced in the hall, corner Ninth and Walnut streets, Cincinnati, on Wednesday afternoon, January 8, 1868, at 2 o'clock. There were some 200 delegates present, representing almost every post in the state. The following is the address of Gen. Thomas L. Young, Grand Commander of the State:

COMRADES: — We have assembled to greet each other, and to take counsel for the benefit of the organization we all love and through which we hope to effect the noble purposes for which we have, by a voluntary obligation, bound ourselves together. As to the good the Grand Army has already accomplished in ameliorating the condition of our wounded and helpless comrades, and in extending not the hand of charity, but the hand of generous assistance to the widow and orphans of our fallen comrades, it will not become me to speak. The evidence of this is to be found rather in the satisfactory consciousness of each individual comrade, and the grateful testimony of the thousands of beneficiaries throughout the state.

If our organization had no greater scope, no other object than a purely benevolent one, then might we now congratulate ourselves on having attained that end systematically, so far, at least, as our limited means would permit, but it must not be forgotten that we have many other noble tasks to perform or attempt. It must be borne in mind:

First, That the Grand Army of the Republic is organized to maintain, in civil life, those great principles for which it stood in arms under the *national flag;* that it stands pledged to crush out *active treason,* to advance and support active loyalty, to secure sound constitutional liberty to all men, and to vindicate everywhere, and at all times, the full and complete rights of every loyal American citizen against all combination of force or fraud that attempts to deny or deprive them of such rights.

Second, That we pledge all the power and influence which we, as individuals or as an association, can legitimately wield, in the most especial manner, to those gallant men who stood fast by the country in the hour of its agony in the rebellious States, and who, through all manner of losses and injuries, persecuted by force and persecutions under color of law, maintained their integrity and vindicated their loyalty: and we solemnly declare that no power that we can use shall be neglected until they are thoroughly and completely protected in the active exercise of every right of American freemen throughout the entire country over which our flag floats.

Third, That Congress in justice and not in charity, should pass a law equalizing in a just manner the bounties of all Union soldiers and sailors.

Fourth, That we have pledged ourselves to use our best endeavors to procure appropriate state and national legislation for the education and maintenance of the orphans and widows of deceased comrades and our maimed brethren, and to enforce a speedy adjustment and payment of all lawful claims against the Government due soldiers and sailors and their heirs.

Fifth, That, as a matter of justice and right, and because the sacrifices made and dangers encountered by the Union soldiers and sailors who served in the late war for the preservation of the country, cannot ever be fully repaid, we respectfully ask that those in authority bestow upon needy and worthy soldiers and sailors such positions of honor and profit as they may be competent to fill; and while we ask nothing for ourselves or those of our comrades who are able to maintain themselves, we do earnestly recommend this request to the consideration of all in authority, and we especially ask the attention of the president to "his policy," heretofore declared on this subject.

Sixth, That the G. A. R. is not organized to make nominations for office nor as a mere secret combination to further ambition of political aspirants, but its purpose is to promote the cause of active loyalty and to advance, by all legitimate and proper influence, the general welfare and interest of the soldiers lately in the United States army, and to secure the attainment of these ends, we invite the co-operation and support of all patriotic and liberal-minded citizens.

Seventh, That to refute calumny and prevent misapprehension, we hereby declare that while the G. A. R. has its secret ceremonies and means of recognition, such as are wisely and properly adopted by all similar societies, to increase their usefulness and efficiency, it attempts no concealment as to its existence or membership, and has no objects that it is not ready on all fitting occasions to avow; and that, conscious of the justice of our principles, we will inscribe them upon our banners so plainly that all may know and understand them.

During the past year I have labored hard, both in counsel and example, to keep the organization out of politics, as an organization, urging on all who sought my advice the sad fate of other secret societies, whose leaders were unwise enough to try to make them an active element in politics.

After a careful study of the constitution and laws of the Grand Army I am satisfied that they nowhere contemplate political action as a whole, but for the attainment of the purposes already enumerated simply suggest individual action, leaving the whole matter to the good judgment and conscience of each comrade, very properly presuming that a soldier who is intelligent enough to appreciate the noble purposes of our Grand Army in peace, and who has stood with bared breast defending the institutions of his country in war, will, when discharging his duties as a citizen, never forget the sacred principles for which he fought, nor the comrades who stood beside him in the dread hour of battle. To this extent the

Grand Army is political — ought to be — but no further. If carried beyond this, then I will take the liberty to say here, its days will be numbered. You will be called upon to-day to elect delegates to represent the several districts of this department in the Grand National Encampment which is to convene in Philadelphia on the 15th inst. For this important duty such comrades should be selected as have, by experience, a knowledge of the wants of the order, or rather those who understand the necessity for a revision of our present ritual and constitution.

Of the progress of the organization during the past year I am happy to say it far exceeded my expectations. For the details of this progress I respectfully refer to my able Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Comrade C. W. Kern, herewith submitted. In this connection I deem it proper to state that the duties of the office of acting assistant adjutant general are very onerous, and deserve a liberal compensation which should be fixed and provided for by the new council of administration at this meeting.

It gives me pain to be compelled, in this place and at this time, to mention the seeming indifference of a great many of the officers of posts in the matter of forwarding returns and reports required by the constitution and rules to be sent to department headquarters. General Orders No. 9 was published and widely circulated calling attention to this dereliction, but without effecting the desired result.

Without a faithful compliance with these requirements it is simply impossible for the order to flourish.

In conclusion, comrades, let me urge you to work together for the attainment of our great purpose, in harmony and good fellowship, and that we never lose sight of the grand results to be reached as set forth in article two of our constitution, which will bear repetition here.

First, The preservation of those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together, with the strong cord of love and affection, the soldiers and sailors who have stood together in many battles, sieges, engagements and marches.

Second, To make these ties available in works and results of kindness, of favor and material aid to those in need of assistance.

Third, To make provision, where it has not already done so, for the support, care and education of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans, and for the maintenance of the widows of deceased soldiers and sailors.

Fourth, For the protection and assistance of disabled soldiers and sailors, whether disabled by wounds, sickness, old age or misfortune.

Fifth, For the establishment and defense of the rights of the late soldiers and sailors of the United States morally, socially and politically, with a view to inculcate a proper appreciation of their service in the country, and to a recognition of such service and claims by the American people.

Sixth, The maintenance of true allegiance to the United States of America based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the national constitution and laws, manifested by the discountenancing of whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, incite to insurrection, treason or rebellion,

or in any manner impair the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions, together with a defense of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

The objects are legitimate, patriotic and noble, and worthy the sympathy and co-operation of all the soldiers and sailors who participated in the late struggle for the *Union,* and demand that these tried patriots should form *associations* aiming at the advancement of their own interests and the welfare of the helpless dependents of their fallen comrades.

We are gratified to note, too, that in this fraternity there are no distinctions of rank, race or color, but that every man who possesses a *diploma* of *patriotism* — an honorable discharge — is equal to his fellows in all the rights and benefits of the order.

But it is argued that those who have served as soldiers and sailors during the war for the Union, and who have now returned to the peaceful pursuits of civil life, have no interest in common that calls for any organization for their mutual benefit and support.

Let us see. The practice of private virtue, benevolence and charity is not, I hope, confined to Masons, Odd Fellows and similar secret societies. Other organizations may still be formed having the same objects in view and be laudable.

Has the returned soldier or sailor no interest in the comrade who stood by his side amidst the dread shock of battle, who bore him, perhaps fainting, from the field, and temporarily staunched the flow of blood, which, if not timely noticed, might have caused his death? Has he no interest in common with the comrades who were wounded and disabled for life by his side in the deadly breach? Has he no interest in the widowed mother, the widowed wife and the desolate orphans of him who fell warding off the blow aimed at the nation's heart? Has he no interest in keeping green the memory of his fellow soldier, who shared the toils and hardships of the long march through the winter storm by day and his freezing picket vigils by night, and who now fills a soldier's grave? *We think he has.*

But it is said that our grateful government will take care of its wounded and maimed defenders and the widows and orphans of those who fell for its preservation. This is true to the extent of two, four, six, and eight dollars per month pension, according to the extent of the disability; but the largest of these sums will be insufficient to pay the rent of a shelter to shield his head from the cold blasts of the winter's storm. Again, that our grateful government has failed up to this date to feed the hungry and starving dependents of the unlucky soldier whose death on the midnight battlefield, or in the prison at Salisbury, Libby, or Andersonville, cannot prove to the entire satisfaction of the red tape gentlemen at our seat of government.

Then, as soldiers and sailors, having an interest in common, who respect and honor the living and revere and cherish the honor and memory of the fallen brave, and are willing to assist in educating and providing bread, if need be, for their helpless dependents, you are called upon to join heart and hand in building up at least one grand brother-

hood of the Grand Army of the Republic, whose silent deeds of charity shall show that at least one portion, the greatest of the truly great American people, fully appreciate, and, as far as in them the power lies, will try to reward their greatest representative — the citizen soldier of the Republic.

After the reading of General Thomas L. Young's address and the other officers' reports, the convention proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year and delegates to the national encampment with the following result:

Grand Commander — J. Warren Keifer, of Springfield, Ohio.
Senior Vice Commander — Col. Gustav Tafel, of Cincinnati, Ohio.
Junior Vice Commander — O. L. McClung, Delaware, Ohio.
Assistant Adjutant General — W. J. Winter, of Springfield, Ohio.
Assistant Quartermaster General — John S. Kountz, Toledo, Ohio.
Council of Administration — Lieutenant Frederick Miller, of Marietta, Ohio; Captain J. S. McCommon, of Chillicothe, Ohio; Ashley Brown, of Dayton, Ohio; Col. Given, of Wooster, Ohio; T. C. Campbell, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The following gentlemen were elected delegates to the Philadelphia convention and instructed to vote for General M. B. Welker for Grand Commander of the United States: Theodore Hutenrath, M. P. Gaddis, C. H. Blackburn, D. Weber, James T. Langstorck, T. C. Campbell, T. J. Lawton, W. R. Warnock, E. F. Dunn, William M. Ampt, D. W. C. Landon, J. C. Moon, Coates Kinney, A. S. Frazier, J. W. Lindsey, Geo. W. Raneage, F. H. Goodman, B. F. Hawks, J. A. Shannon, Beach W. Free, J. W. Sanderson, H. B. Banning, B. F. Miller, H. C. Jones, J. R. Hurd, Josiah Given, A. S. McCure, F. Miller, H. B. Jones, Glancy M. Barnes, C. W. Earnshaw, J. Hunt, Geo. L. Childs, James Barnett and Charles Steedman.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted:

TO DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT OF OHIO.

Your committee appointed on resolutions beg leave to report the following:

First, That this encampment has no power to alter the ritual or fundamental principles of our organization, yet they would most respectfully recommend to the national encampment to assemble in Philadelphia that they enact such alterations in the rules, by-laws, charges, obligations and modes of muster or initiation into the order as shall give greater efficiency to our work, and render its ceremonies more attractive and impressive.

Second, Your committee do not attempt to call attention to each individual reform required, yet to the minds of all they are obvious and numerous.

The obligation of candidates is verbose and unnecessarily long. We think the charge is too lengthy to be impressive. The whole ceremony of mustering recruits might be greatly improved. The plan upon which

the finances of the institution are raised, kept and disbursed, can be simplified and rendered more effective. And we submit that the vitality of the order depends upon reform in this particular.

Your committee would recommend no change in the true objects of the organization, our prominent object being the good of our country. The preservation and perpetuation of our government involves the necessity, under our constitution and laws, of a right choice of men for place and power. No institution can be safe in the hands of its enemies. So would our government (which is but a human institution, but the best of its kind), perish if left to its enemies; and while we deem it best and wisest to avoid all political action as a body which the actual necessities of our country may not require from us, leaving our members free to act upon their consciences, and in their responsibility to their God and their country; yet we hold it to be the duty of every man, in or out of our order, who enjoys that high attribute of freedom, the elective franchise, to so exercise it that he may do no wrong to the republic; therefore,

Resolved, First, That the Grand Army of the Republic is organized to maintain in civil life those great principles for which it stood in arms under the national flag; that it stands pledged to crush out active treason, to advance and support active loyalty, to secure sound, constitutional liberty to all men and to vindicate everywhere and at all times the full and complete rights of every loyal American citizen against all combination of force or fraud that may attempt to deny or deprive them of such rights.

Resolved, Second, That we pledge all the power and influence which as individuals or as an association we can legitimately wield in the most especial manner to those gallant men who stood fast by the country in the hours of its agony in the rebellious states, and who through all manner of losses and injuries, persecutions by force and persecutions under color of law maintained their integrity and vindicated their loyalty, and we solemnly declare that no power that we can use shall be neglected until they are thoroughly and completely protected in the active exercise of every right of American freemen through the entire country over which our flag floats.

Resolved, Third, That Congress, in justice and not in charity, should pass a law equalizing in a just manner the bounties of all Union soldiers and sailors.

Resolved, Fourth, That we have pledged ourselves to use our best endeavors to procure appropriate state and national legislation for the education and maintenance of the orphans and widows of deceased comrades and maimed brethren and to enforce a speedy adjustment and payment of all lawful claims against the government due soldiers and sailors and their heirs.

Resolved, Fifth, That as a matter of justice and right and because the sacrifices made and dangers encountered by the Union soldiers and sailors who served in the late war for the preservation of the country can not ever be fully repaid, we respectfully ask that those in authority bestow

upon needy and worthy soldiers and sailors such positions of honor and profit as they may be competent to fill, and while we ask nothing for ourselves or for those who are able to maintain themselves we do earnestly recommend this request to the consideration of all in authority.

And we especially ask the attention of the President to his policy heretofore declared on the subject.

Resolved, Sixth, That the G. A. R. is not organized to make nominations for office, nor as a mere secret combination to further the ambition of political aspirants, but its purpose is to promote the cause of actual loyalty, and to advance, by all legitimate and proper influences the general welfare and interests of the soldiers lately in the United States army, and to secure the attainment of these ends, we invite the co-operation and support of all patriotic and liberal-minded citizens.

Resolved, Seventh, That to refute calumny and prevent misapprehension, we hereby declare that while the G. A. R. has its secret ceremonies and means of recognition such as are wisely and properly adopted by all similar societies to increase their usefulness and efficiency, it attempts no concealment as to its existence or membership; has no objects that it is not ready on all fitting occasions to avow; and that, conscious of the justness of our principles, we will inscribe them upon our banners so plainly that all may know and understand them.

Resolved, That we instruct our delegates to the national encampment to be holden on the 15th inst. at Philadelphia, to use their utmost influence to make the principles embodied in these resolutions available.

Resolved, That we deem it expedient and proper that each post be authorized to appropriate funds to any one of our state encampments, and that in cases where delegates are sent to represent several posts at a national encampment, that said posts among themselves apportion and defray such expenses according to their membership.

Resolved, That hereafter all our encampment deliberations shall be opened by prayer, whenever the services of a suitable chaplain can be obtained.

WHEREAS, We recognize the able and efficient manner in which the Republic has advocated our cause from its inception to the present time,

Resolved, That we give it our hearty support, and recommend its adoption as the official organ of the Grand Army of the Republic for the department of Ohio.

Signed, M. B. WELKER, *Chairman.*

WHEREAS, Congress at its July session passed an act declaring that such soldiers as had served to the end of the war, but might have been absent without leave at any time thereafter, should not be recorded as deserters for the reason that they were only bound by the terms of their enlistment to serve to the end of the war, and yet said act declares that the class thus affected shall not be entitled to pay or allowance; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Grand Army of the Republic of the Department of Ohio that we regard that clause of the act which deprives these men

of pay for service rendered, when acknowledged to have been guilty of no violation of duty under their contract of enlistment, is unjust, and naturally stultifies the vote by which it became a law. We therefore respectfully request our Senators and Representatives in Congress to have said act so amended that all soldiers of the war of 1861 who are not deserters shall be paid the hard-earned pittance due them by the government.

The encampment adjourned *sine die*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, HELD AT DAYTON, OHIO, JANUARY 13-14, 1869.

The annual convention of the Grand Army of the Republic for the department of Ohio, composed of delegates from the various encampments in the state met in Huston Hall yesterday morning, and were called to order by Grand Commander Major General J. Warren Keifer, who formally addressed the convention. He said:

COMRADES:—We have again assembled pursuant to the requirements of the rules and regulations of our organization, and in compliance with an order from department headquarters, for the purpose of transacting business of vital interest to the noble ends and objects of the Grand Army of the Republic in this department. The number and character of those assembled here, furnish high hopes that the work before us is to be well done. In my address to the last grand encampment of the department, July 1st, 1868, I spoke briefly of the objects of the organization. I shall now confine myself chiefly to calling your attention to matters of business deemed by me important to be considered and acted upon at this time.

This encampment will have to elect officers for the ensuing year, as follows: A grand commander, a senior vice commander, a junior vice grand commander, an assistant inspector general, an assistant quartermaster general, an assistant surgeon general, a chaplain, and a council of administration consisting of five (5) comrades. The office of assistant adjutant general is not now an elective office, but is filled by appointment of the grand commander. Such comrades should be elected for the several offices as have a deep inttrest in the attainment of the objects of the organization, free from all selfish or political purposes.

As to the office of inspector general, I take the liberty of saying that it should be filled by a man of energy and high character, one who can bring to his aid the talent of a good public lecturer and instructor in the work, and above all a good organizer. The duties he should perform are of that kind that if well performed will insure permanency and efficiency to the organization, and enable it to accomplish objects that will command, even from its enemies, admiration and approval.

I of course do not expect any comrade in that office to do all this without being seconded in all his efforts by other department officers, and the officers and comrades generally.

Delegates to grand encampment as required in Sec. 1, Art. XVIII, of Rules and Regulations, it will be the duty of this encampment to elect ten delegates to the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to be held at such place as may be hereafter designated, May

15th, A. D. 1869. It may be proper to say that it is unofficially announced that the next grand encampment will be held in Cincinanti.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, ETC.

For condition of posts, numbers and past efficiency, I take pleasure in referring you to the report of Assistant Adjutant General W. J. Winter, herewith submitted. There are many things therein contained worthy of your consideration.

The failure on the part of posts to make the required reports, is still a chief source of embarrassment at department headquarters. I am inclined to think that this failure is more a matter of neglect than design, and partly because the importance of reports is not fully realized. The comrades do not fully comprehend the importance of centralizing and unity, in which alone we can have strength, the all important thing in attaining the objects and purposes of our organization.

As upon the day of battle an army is strong by reason of its battalions, each being found prompt in taking its assigned position in the line or charging column, so now do we find our strength and success depend upon the alacrity with which each separate organization responds to what is required of it.

The general object and purpose of the Grand Army of the Republic is to afford an organization to which every man who was or is a soldier, and honorably discharged soldier of the United States volunteer or regular army and marine corps, and sailor, and honorably discharged sailor of the United States navy, could be invited, and from which we could derive benefits, essential to his happiness and progress as an American citizen, not otherwise to be acquired. The contact of comrade with comrade cannot but improve all, and to many the organization affords the only means of obtaining a just recognition of what is due them, for their sacrifices to the cause of not only their country, but humanity everywhere.

This organization should be regarded as essentially for the benefit of the private soldiers, who are now the peer of the comrade who once held the highest office in the army or navy.

Keeping all the objects of the organization steadily in view it must be apparent to all thinking comrades that they are all jeopardized by the failure to promptly respond to what is prescribed by the Rules and Regulations. The many orders in reference to making reports and the penalties fixed for their disobedience have been deemed necessary for the existence of the Grand Army in this department.

I am pleased to be able to say that since our last encampment there has been material improvement in the general workings of the order, notwithstanding the heated and absorbing political campaigns just passed through. It is hoped that during the coming year, the order will grow into full vigor and strength, thereby securing a permanency, only to be lost by the death of the last soldier and sailor of our national union.

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

For the financial condition of the department I refer to the report of the Assistant Quartermaster General, herewith submitted. While it will be observed by the reports of both the Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster Generals that in neither one of their departments has any debt been contracted which there has not been means to pay promptly, yet it is much to be regretted that many posts have failed to pay their dues and comply with the resolution of the National Encampment published in Paragraph III, General Orders No. 14 (98) from department headquarters. A still larger number have wholly failed to comply with the resolutions of this department and council of administration adopted at the last encampment and published (together with other requirements) in General Orders No. 17 from department headquarters. While all expenses and dues of the department have been paid it must not be forgotten that many things could and would have been done for the good of the order involving expense, through the Aides-de-camp and otherwise, if the state of the finances had permitted it. The vast amount of labor performed by the Assistant Adjutant and Assistant Quartermaster Generals cannot be adequately compensated for. Notwithstanding this they performed, uncomplainingly, their arduous duties with great fidelity. As stated in my former address the expenses of the department for all necessary purposes (except perhaps the payment of the expenses and salary of the Assistant Inspector General) will not exceed the dues required to be paid by Sec. 2, Art. XII, rules and regulations, provided such dues are promptly paid by each post.

I have not availed myself of the power granted by Sec. 3, Art. XII, rules and regulations and the recommendation of the last department encampment, to increase the dues, for the reason that it would work manifest injustice to all those who have paid their dues regularly. The privileges and benefits of the order should be withheld from comrades and posts who fail to comply with the rules and regulations. As to the failure of many posts to comply with General Order No. 17 and the resolutions therein set forth, I need only say that it has been a source of much regret I did not feel fully authorized to say to Assistant Inspector General Collier that we required his undivided time in the cause of the Grand Army of the Republic. His expenses and salary had first to be secured. Great good could not fail to result from the labors of so zealous, able and efficient an officer.

From the localities visited by him we have highly satisfactory reports. Many letters are received from officers of posts earnestly requesting the assistant inspector general to be sent to instruct them. These requests cannot be complied with for want of means to pay traveling expenses, etc. It is believed that an assistant inspector general can do much good in securing uniformity in the unwritten work and in suggesting various modes by which an interest may be built up in the meetings of posts and thereby insure a full attendance of comrades. This

would remedy the most serious difficulty in the way of progress that has come to my knowledge.

The special levy made if paid would be ample to pay the salary and expenses of the Inspector General for the full period of a year, and at the end of that time it is believed that the department would be so strong and efficient as to render a further special levy unnecessary.

I again submit the whole subject of devising a mode of requiring the payment of the levy already made by delinquent posts or other means of raising funds for the payment of the Assistant Inspector General's expenses and salary to you.

If the necessary means can be raised it is hoped that we shall be able to secure the constant services of our present Assistant Inspector General, or some one of equal ability and earnestness, to perform the duties of the office.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME AND ITS NECESSITIES.

To Assistant Inspector General Collier is due the credit of proposing the establishment of a soldiers' orphans' home in Ohio and to make its easblishment a part of the work of charity to be accomplished by the Grand Army of the Republic. It is proposed that the Inspector General should make the creation of such a home a special part of his work.

It is a humiliating fact that Ohio is behind many of the loyal states and behind many of her sister states of the northwest, not her equals in wealth, population and resources, in doing timely justice to her many soldiers' and sailors' orphans, who have a right to *demand* her guardian care and bounty. Their patriotic fathers laid down their lives a sacrifice upon the nation's altar, for the benefit of this and future generations, leaving behind them those who by nature's ties they were bound to rear and educate until past the age of dependency, and this sacrifice was made by them under the most sacred pledges that could be given by a loyal, patriotic people.

The neglected condition of the soldiers' orphans in Ohio, in many cases left in extreme poverty and often found shelterless and starving in our streets, force them to commit deeds of wickedness that doom them to fill our prisons and penitentiaries. For this the people of the state are by reason of their neglect in a high degree responsible This charge canont be laid at the door of any one man but applies to the whole people, collectively speaking. Hence the important duty of remedying this great wrong, should be made to devolve on somebody in order that the subject should be fully brought to the knowledge of the people of the state in such way that they can act in the matter in a united manner.

It is confidently believed that the people will second our efforts in a material way and thereby insure the successful establishment of a soldiers' orphans' home, that will redound to the glory of the state, and do tardy justice to the many helpless soldiers' and sailors' orphans.

Many of the people have already signified their readiness to respond with their ample means to the accomplishment of this purpose.

It is also a subject for legislative action on the part of the General Assembly of Ohio, and much assistance is to be hoped for at an early day from that source. As a matter of economy to the state, many people believe that a soldiers' orphans' home commends itself. The state, as a question of economy alone, can better afford to furnish to this class a temporary home for their comfort, protection and education than to support them in our alms-houses, prisons and penitentiaries. The establishment of such a home is demanded for the present and future relief of society.

In such a "home," properly governed, these dependent orphans may be trained and educated to be honored citizens, adorn society instead of preying upon it, and in the future be defenders of our nation's glory, honor, existence and integrity, as were their fathers, who responded to the call of their country and fell in its defense.

The highest of all reasons for founding such a home should be to pay a debt due these orphans, not as a charity alone, but as compensation for the services rendered by their heroic and patriotic deceased fathers. This subject I especially invite you to give your most careful consideration.

To make it the work of the assistant inspector general, in connection with his other important duties, would render it necessary for him to appeal to the people of the state, and not to the members of the Grand Army alone. By the Grand Army of the Republic taking this matter in charge it will give its several organizations a special work to do in conjunction with their other acts of charity to the soldiers and sailors, and their families.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

At our last encampment comrade John Kennett presented the subject of honorary membership to the Grand Army of the Republic, and in accordance with a resolution of that encampment a committee was appointed, of which he was made chairman, to report a plan for receiving such members, to be suggested to the grand encampment at its next assembly. That committee may be prepared to lay their report before you. I have not had time to digest the subject fully, but can see no real objection to such membership under proper guards and limitations.

The distinctive character of the Grand Army can only be given to it by the soldiers and sailors who *fought during the late rebellion;* but of the very many thousands of loyal men who remained at home and rendered all possible aid and assistance during that long struggle, who then and still fully sympathize with us, I can see no insurmountable objection to their becoming, upon complying with certain terms, honorary members without giving them admission to its secret signs and mysteries. Upon this subject I make no special recommendations.

SUBJECT FOR CONSIDERATION OF ENCAMPMENT.

For further subjects to which attention should be given, I will content myself by calling your attention to General Orders No. 19, of December 30, 1868, from the commander-in-chief, herewith submitted.

CONCLUSION.

Although I have felt it to be my duty to speak plainly to you of the many short-comings of comrades and posts in the Grand Army, I am not unmindful of my own as a comrade and your department commander. Private business has often been in the way of my doing what I should otherwise have liked to do. In conclusion, let me ask you to join in trying to do in the future, what we have failed to do in the past, and earnestly labor together for the success of our organization, and the attainment of incalculable good to all our comrades and the families of those who have fallen in the strife of the great conflict, but who were once our much esteemed comrades in fighting life's battles.

The convention proceeded to appoint committees as follows: On resolutions: Comrades H. G. Armstrong, Ashley Brown, Enos. Saylor, L. S. Barnes, A. E. McGoffin.

On affairs of department—Comrades Wm. Free, H. G. Kennett, M. P. Gaddis, A. W. Scott, C. W. Karr.

On soldiers' orphans' home — Comrades Byers, Chase and D. B. Corwin.

An invitation was accepted from the officers of the national asylum for soldiers during the afternoon, accepted unanimously and adjourned till 7. p. m.

NIGHT SESSION.

After coming to order the committee on credentials reported authorized delegates in attendance.

Committee on business reported the order of business.

The committee on resolutions, through Comrade Armstrong, reported the following, which were unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the republican government has fully demonstrated its ability and power to live whether in the fires of foreign war or the heat of domestic turbulence and treason, and we hereby renew the assurances of our faith in the final issues of the government from all its perils and tribulations.

Resolved, That should our country be assailed by a foreign foe, should domestic insurrection ever again seek to sever the Union of these states, by which alone our country is made safe; or should the traitor in any shape attempt ever to raise his armed hand against the liberties of any portion of this great people, the Grand Army of the Republic will

stand ready as it always has stood, to repel the foreign enemy or to crush out the treason.

Resolved, That we will guard with eager watchfulness the victories gained by the defenders of our country, that no ruthless hand shall snatch from us the prize won on so many fields of blood, saying now, as we said in the dark days of the rebellion, in the words of our illustrious commander, "Let us have peace."

Resolved, That we will ever bear in grateful remembrance the dead comrades of the Army of the Republic, who, after all their arduous marches, their terrible fights, their hours of mortal agony, are now at rest in their night encampment with silent motionless sentinels; that we will hold in reverent hearts the examples they set us, and guard with jealous care the fame they acquired while at the cost of life itself, they defended the existence of the American government in all its integrity and power.

Resolved, That it is our duty and our pride to see that those they loved, the faithful devoted wife, and the helpless little ones they left behind them, are taken care of and protected.

General Deuel, department quartermaster, submitted his annual report, which was accepted and filed.

Comrade Langstroth submitted a report from the council of administration, heartily commending the manner in which assistant quartermaster Deuel and assistant adjutant general Winters have discharged their respective duties. Both officers were warmly commended for their zeal, industry and fidelity.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The convention proceeded to the election of the following officers for ensuing year: Grand Commander, Major General J. Warren Keifer, of Springfield, Ohio; Senior Vice Grand Commander, Col. Rob't M. Moore, Cincinnati; Assistant Inspector General, Chaplain G. W. Collier, of Toledo; Assistant Quartermaster General, Capt. A. C. Deuel, of Urbana; Surgeon General, Lieut. Col. Kirkpatrick, of Hamilton; Chaplain, Chaplain Wm. Earnshaw.

General Keifer feelingly acknowledged the endorsement of the Grand Army as manifested by his resolution. He certainly felt as deep interest in the Grand Army as any soldier can. He had not sought the place, he had thought he could not spare the time from his business, but since the duty had devolved upon him he would accept it and discharge his obligations to the best of his abilities.

Comrade Earnshaw was elected Chaplain of the department by a unanimous vote, the rules being suspended. The following were elected members of the council of administration, viz.: Comrades Ashley Brown, of Dayton; Joseph L. Smith, of the Soldiers' home, P. O'Connell, of Dayton; Thomas W. Hefferman, of Cincinnati, and Nathaniel Haughton, of Toledo.

Comrade Gaddis from the committee submitted a report on the private affairs of the department which was ordered filed.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME.

Comrade Byers, from the committee to whom the subject was referred submitted the following interesting report, viz.:

WHEREAS, Other states have already provided homes which are securing the well being of soldiers' orphans, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the duty of this department of the Grand Army of the Republic to seek promptly and earnestly by every just and generous effort to provide a home for the orphans of our fallen comrades, who fell vindicating the nation's honor and leaving to Ohio a fair heritage in the memory of their patriotism and valor.

Resolved, That the Council of Administration be and are hereby authorized to institute the necessary steps for the organization of such a place as may in their judgment be best calculated to secure public attention and co-operation upon the part of the citizens of Ohio to aid in securing the erection of a state orphans' home for the children of deceased soldiers of Ohio.

The committee to whom the subject of a state soldiers' orphans' home was referred would respectfully report that

WHEREAS, There are by the best estimate that can be made from existing facts over two thousand orphan children in Ohio whose fathers gave up their lives upon the altar of our country, and whose children have been thus deprived of needed protection and support; and

WHEREAS, Many of these little ones are now numbered with the pauper population of our state and subjected to neglect and cruelty, and exposed to unnumbered and unmitigated evils in the county infirmaries of our state; and,

WHEREAS, Sacred obligations are upon us, while we cherish the memory of our fallen comrades, to leave no efforts untried to secure the comfort, education and happiness of their children; therefore.

Resolved, That the assistant inspector general be appointed as agent of this department, under the immediate advice and control of the Council of Administration, and that it shall be his duty to solicit aid to receive contributions and such proposals of assistance from private citizens or corporate bodies as will aid in the accomplishment of this most important work, and that for such service the assistant inspector general shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the Council of Administration.

J. A. CHASE,
A. G. BYERS,
D. B. CORWIN.

Pending nominations for delegates to the national convention the session adjourned until nine o'clock tomorrow.

THE G. A. R. BANQUET.

At the close of the business meeting of the Grand Army last night they repaired to the Beckel House and enjoyed a banquet, the liberality

of which and the taste displayed in it, reflected great credit on the directors of it. After the courses were disposed of Col. John G. Lowe, presiding, read the regular toasts, which were responded to in due order. All the regular responses, some of them, especially that of Chaplain Earnshaw, were really eloquent. Colonel Harry G. Armstrong, of the Cincinnati *Chronicle*, honorably represented the press, followed by the editor of the *Journal* and Mr. Campbell of the *Republic* at Cincinnati. It would have afforded us, and we know it would have pleased readers, great pleasure to have reported the very beautiful and pathetic response of Chaplain Earnshaw, but the late hour forbade it. The speech of Chaplain Collier was also one of conspicuous merit, truly eloquent in some of its points.

The occasion was altogether agreeable, nothing occurring to affect the general pleasure. The banqueting hall was appropriately decorated with evergreens and the national colors. The guests were dismissed after two o'clock this morning. The regular toasts were as follows:

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. The safety of the nation in peace as well as in war depends upon the virtues and patriotism of the people.—*Colonel M. P. Nolan.*

2. "With malice toward none and charity for all," we will ever demand that History shall bestow her richest gifts, and Fame her most lasting laurels, upon the conquering heroes of our great civil war.—*Gen. Wm. Steedman.*

3. If a man was our friend during the war he has claims upon our friendship during life; if he was our enemy in the war, when he repents we will forgive him.—*Col. Pond.*

4. The union of the states. In view of the results of the war, we may now say with hope and confidence, *Esto perpetua.*—*M. P. Gaddis, Jr.*

5. The G. A. R. Grand in its aims, organization and resources. May it ever be as beneficent as it is powerful.—*Maj. Gen. J. Warren Keifer.*

6. The loyal press. It upheld the hands of the government in her hour of need, heralded our victories, honored the true soldier, lamented the fallen, was the voice of all loyal hearts in war, and should be sustained in peace.—*Col. Harry G. Armstrong, of the Cincinnati Chronicle.*

7 Our lamented dead. May their memories ever be held sacred by their surviving comrades.—*Chaplain Earnshaw.*

8. The soldiers' widows and orphans, the wards of the loyal people. May their homes be made less desolate through the workings of the Grand Army of the Republic.—*Chaplain Collier.*

G. A. R. VISIT TO THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

The delegates attending the state convention of the G. A. R. of the department of Ohio, visited the soldiers' home yesterday afternoon. The occasion was one of the most agreeable yet enjoyed at that noble institution.

A long procession of vehicles filled with old soldiers preceded by a band moved out at two o'clock and were welcomed by a salute of artillery and by a battalion of veterans in line. After assembly in the great dining hall manager Guncle welcomed the Grand Army in a very happy address reciting something of the history of the institution, describing its operations, tracing the parallel between principles of its organization and that of the Grand Army, and heartily welcoming the visiting brethren in the name of the institution and its inmates.

Maj. Gen. J. Warren Keifer, Grand Commander, accepted the hospitalities of the Home in behalf of the G. A. R., feelingly reminding his auditors of the peculiar and striking spirit of the occasion, expressing a deep sense of gratitude at the manifest discharge of its duty by a grateful government in offering such a noble aslyum for the comfort of its afflicted defenders, and impressing upon them that no man of them is entitled to consider the home in any sense a charitable institution, but only part payment of a sacred debt that never can be fully paid. He was profoundly impressed by the scene before him, and found that emotions were constantly choking his words. It seemed to him that he was talking to history while he was there conversing face to face with what remains of the thousands of brave men who had been partially spared by war.

Lieutenant Gov. Lee followed in a speech of some twenty or thirty minutes, which enlisted the closest attention and commanded repeated and enthusiastic applause. It seemed a most happy combination of conversation, stump speech and oration, which was most admirably managed to please by its point, excite by its eloquence, and win admiration by its merit as a composition—unstudied, yet clear, compact and often almost classical. His theme was the mutilated veterans before him, the war, those who opposed the war and the duty of the republic to provide bountifully for those whose blood is now a part of the flag.

Gen. Wm. Steedman, of Portage, called down the house in uproarious applause by one of those simple, unaffected, unthought of talks that a rough, honest and true soldier somehow will get off by a sort of inspiration when he undertakes to tell how he feels when the vision of war comes up before him. There was no speech in it, yet it was full of pith, point and manly strength.

Rev. M. P. Gaddis, Jr., admitting that he was not easily embarrassed by any audience, confessed that the presence he was in completely unmanned him. He did not know how to talk to soldiers with mutilated bodies and animated by the spirit which exhibited itself to his mind in that audience. Like. Gov. Lee he felt that he would go down upon his knees to those men and say, "I thank you." He had rather thought the G. A. R. ought to finish its business before visiting the home, or anywhere else, but he was glad they didn't. It was the talk that we should go back to Dayton at 4 o'clock. For his part he didn't want to go back at 5 nor at 7. He wanted to stay there. He wouldn't make a speech. He couldn't. He only wanted to stand there and feel his heart beat and

choke down emotion, so he could keep saying, "I thank you." But for a few minutes Mr. Gaddis talked eloquently.

Chaplain Collier took the platform, not to make a speech, but to talk a little, and to advise adjournment before it was too late to visit all the institution. By degrees the chaplain got warmed up and got his audience excited upon the theme; that every battlefield of the late war and every rebel prison pen are represented in the Soldiers' Home, a thought which kept expanding at such a rate that this eloquent chaplain might have kept going till midnight. He cut short, however, for adjournment.

Meanwhile General Free sang, "Red, White and Blue," the audience joining in the chorus, and the occasion was closed by Chaplain Collier leading in the doxology, the band assisting and the whole audience joining, producing a splendid volume of sound.

The commandant, Colonel Brown, then extended the freedom of camp to the guests of the home, and the remainder of the afternoon was spent in visiting all departments of the institution, the magnitude of which was surprising to all.

GRAND ARMY CONVENTION.—2D DAY.

The convention of the G. A. R., department of Ohio, assembled again yesterday morning, and concluded their business.

The election of delegates to the national convention G. A. R., which will meet in Cincinnati in May, was disposed of by choosing the following:

DELEGATES.

T. C. Morris, Alliance; J. A. Chase, Toledo; G. W. Chersell, Henrysburg; U. S. Wise, Van Wert; W. A. Baldwin, Cincinnati; E. F. Taylor, Zanesville; W. J. Winter, Springfield, H. G. Armstrong, Cincinnati; Wm. Steedman, Ravenna; James T. Langsworth, Oxford.

There was a general and interesting discussion upon the soldiers' orphans' home enterprise, and the following special committee was appointed with instructions to prepare a report upon the best means for carrying the project into operation, viz.:

Comrades G. W. Collier, Toledo; A. G. Byers, Columbus; D. B. Corwin and Dr. Brundrett, Dayton, and W. H. Baldwin, Cincinanti.

Resolutions of thanks to the resident manager and officers of the national soldiers' home, and to the comrades of the Dayton posts for their courtesies, and to the officers of the convention for their efficient discharge of duties, were adopted, and the convention adjourned to meet at Sandusky in July.

Gen. Keifer, grand commander, announces the following appointments on his personal staff: W. H. H. McArthur, A. A. G., Vienna; T. H. Goodman, A. D. C., Sandusky; Stephen D. Evans, A. D. C., Cincinnati; J. C. Clemmer, A. D. C., Salem; W. W. McCarto, A. D. C., Chardon; Geo. A. Rawlins, A. D. C., Springfield.

Gen. Keifer has also issued the following general order:

HEADQUARTER DEPARTMENT OF O. G. A. R.
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

SPRINGFIELD, O., January 16, 1869.

I. The undersigned having been re-elected grand commander of this department for the ensuing year, will continue in command of the same.

II. For this unsought confidence he tenders his thanks to the department. While there are many things that should be otherwise, there is much to congratulate the department upon. There are many unmistakable signs of permanent growth and prosperity. It is hoped that in the coming year this department may be put in such a condition as to insure its influence for good during the lifetime of every soldier and sailor of the late rebellion.

III. In obedience to the authority vested in me by Sect. 2, Art. 8, Rules and Regulations, Comrade W. J. Winter, of Springfield, was appointed A. A. G. of this department, to whom all official communications for these headquarters will be addressed.

J. WARREN KEIFER,
Department Commander.

W. J. WINTERS, *official.*
Assistant Adjutant General.

SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT G. A. R. OF OHIO, HELD AT SANDUSKY, JULY 21, 1869.

The semi-annual meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic for the State of Ohio was called to order yesterday morning at 10 o'clock by General J. Warren Keifer, department commander. The hall proper of post 41 being too small, the convention was held in Fisher's hall which was suitablly decorated for the occasion by the ladies of Sandusky. In the rear of the stage was a representation of an American eagle resting upon a huge rock.

The convention was largely attended, the delegates exceeding in number those of any previous state convention of the organization. The delegates present were representative men of the various posts of this state, and all seemed actuated by a desire to advance the interests of the order.

After prayer by Chaplain, General Wm. Earnshaw, the delegates were welcomed to the city by Captain E. M. Culver, commandant of post 41 of Sandusky. He assured the convention that the well known hospitality of Sandusky would insure to the delegates a hearty welcome, not only at the hands of the comrades of the city, but by the entire

people. His remarks were responded to by Chaplain Earnshaw for the Grand Army. He returned thanks for the kindness already received, and hoped that the gathering here would prove mutually beneficial to all present. He hoped that this convention would be successful in arranging some effectual plan for the care and education of the little ones left fatherless by the war, and closed by a few well chosen remarks relative to the object of the meeting.

At the close of his response the department commander, General J. Warren Keifer delivered his semi-annual address as follows:

ADDRESS OF GENERAL J. WARREN KEIFER, GRAND COMMANDER, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT OF OHIO, AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION AT SANDUSKY, JULY 21, 1869.

COMRADES: — The hour having arrived for the assembling of the semi-annual encampment of the department of Ohio, it becomes my duty to call you to order. I am much gratified at meeting so many of the members of the Grand Army of the Republic. There is but little to submit to the encampment upon the condition of the department. The reports of department officers will furnish full information upon all matters pertaining to their several offices. It becomes my duty to again call attention to the remissness of posts on making reports, and in the payment of dues. This has occasioned much embarrassment to the department, and materially affected its prosperity. It is hoped that some potent plan will be adopted that will secure promptness in the future, in making reports, etc. The officers of posts should bear in mind that the same promptness and alacrity that rendered them efficient upon the field, would make them equally so at the head of their respective organizations. The condition of the department, although not all that could be wished, is yet not such as to justify despondency. The good that has been attained, the suffering that has been prevented and alleviated, and the many other things that we are accomplishing and about to accomplish, should rather tend to make us proud of the organization, and prompt us to labor assiduously in carrying out its objects. At the late meeting of the national encampment at Cincinnati, May 12, 1869, the department of Ohio stood second to none upon the reports, etc., of the national officers of the Grand Army of the Republic.

BUSINESS OF THE ENCAMPMENT.

There is one vacancy to fill in the council of administration, accasioned by the removal of comrade Joseph L. Smith, of Dayton, Ohio, from the department.

In consequence of the change in the Rules and Regulations and Ritual, it is proposed to give some attention to instructing Post Commanders, Aides-de-camp and such others as are eligible in the new work, etc.

You must select the place of meeting for the annual encampment.

OBJECTS OF THE G. A. R.

No substantial change has been made by the adoption of the new rules and regulations in the objects of the organization. The objects to be accomplished are as follows:

1. "To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together the soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion."

2. "To assist such former comrades in arms as need help and protection; and to extend needful aid to the widows and orphans of those who have fallen.

3. "To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and laws; to discountenance whatever tends to weaken loyalty, incites to insurrection, treason or rebellion or in any manner impairs the efficiency and permanency of our the free institutions, and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights, and justice to all men."

Its object are in short, the preservation of brotherly feeling for, and assistance and protection in case of need to comrades who fought on land and sea to crush a defiant and powerful foe to liberty and free institutions; and also, to in the future as in the past, maintain true allegiance and fidelity to the national constitution and laws, opposition to treason or disloyalty and to secure *liberty, equality* and *justice to all men.* Those who oppose the organization do it upon two false grounds.

1. That our purposes and objects are secret and sinister.

2. That there is no necessity for an organization that is invidious in the selection of its members.

To the first, it is sufficient to answer it is untrue, that the objects of the Grand Army of the Republic are neither secret nor sinister. Its objects are openly proclaimed to the world, and their noble character is such as to challenge the admiration of the charitable, loyal and liberty loving.

To the second, it must be pleaded that the organization could not include all loyal citizens for many obvious reasons; but the soldiers and sailors who honorably served in the suppression of the late rebellion; who formed ties of friendship for one another in camp, upon the weary march and upon the bloody field of strife and who, when all men united to join the *Grand Army of the Union,* and fight for its preservation, responded to their country's call, abandoning their ordinary avocations of life, are still thought fit to be banded together to peacefully battle for that which they valued not second to their blood or their lives. That the Grand Army of the Republic is invidious in this that no person who ever bore arms against the United States is eligible to membership, must be admitted. To this charge we plead justification and submit to a candid public, whether we should make those so lately battling for slavery and against universal freedom the guardian of our dearly bought rights. It must not be for one moment conceived that it is any part of the objects of the Grand Army of the Republic to stir

up malice or envy against those who fought upon the side of the rebellion. The true soldier is the first to forgive and succor a fallen foe, and bestow upon him pity and sympathy, rather than persecution and hatred, The soldiers of the Grand Army rejoice at every sign of returning loyalty upon the part of their misguided countrymen and when there no longer remains in this nation a single person who breathes the blasting curse of treason through his lips, will one of the necessities of the organization have passed away. Let us hope and pray that time is near at hand. That the organization is not a partisan one, need not again be repeated.

GRADES.

The grades established by the recently adopted rules and regulations, it is believed will add much interest to the members. The grades established are:

First — Recruit.
Second — Soldier.
Third — Veteran.

For full explanation and definition of these grades see Art. VI, rules and regulations.

DECORATION OF SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

I am again most happy to congratulate the Department upon the almost universal observance of the custom established of meeting and honoring the graves of the deceased soldiers and sailors by strewing flowers, by orations and by other appropriate ceremonies. On the day appointed (May 30th, 1869), by our Commander-in-Chief, in many places throughout the department business was suspended and the people, without regard to party, joined in the solemn ceremonies.

It now needs no prophetic vision to safely prophesy, that so long as liberty has an advocate, and the shield of a free constitution protects the people of this country, this solemn and appropriate ceremony will be observed.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME.

The report of the inspector general will show the progress made toward the establishment of a soldiers' orphans' home. It is highly gratifying to know that much interest has been elicited by the people throughout the state in this matter, and such material aid proffered as to secure its final consummation.

The committee appointed at the late department encampment discharged its duty, but failed to secure the desired legislation on the part of the General Assembly of Ohio. When legislation was found to be out of the question with the sanction of the council of administration, Chaplain G. W. Collier, assistant inspector general, was at once assigned by general orders Nov. 5, 1869, to the work of establishing a home for the soldiers' orphans of Ohio. Much to my regret in certain localities

it has been deemed proper to suggest the establishment of such a home which is only to be local in its nature, and such efforts are likely to prove fruitless in the end, and will only tend to cripple the work of securing a home that will limit the extent of its bounties only by the boundaries of the state.

For the purpose of reassuring everybody of the authority of the assistant inspector general, and that he is working under the auspices of the department of Ohio, I have to submit the past acts of this encampment and the council of administration. The committee at the last encampment to whom the subject of a soldiers' orphans' home in Ohio was referred, reported, and the same was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, Other states have already provided homes which are securing the well-being of soldiers' orphans, therefore

Resolved, That it is the duty of this department of the Grand Army of the Republic to seek promptly and earnestly by every just and generous effort to provide a home for the orphans or our fallen comrades who fell vindicating the nation's honor, and leaving to Ohio a fair heritage in the memory of their patriotism and valor.

Resolved, That the council of administration be and are hereby authorized to institute the necessary steps for the organization of such plans as may, in their judgment, be best calculated to secure public attention and co-operation upon the part of the citizens of Ohio, to aid in the erection of a state orphans' home for the children of deceased soldiers of Ohio, also,

WHEREAS, There are by the best estimate that can be made from existing facts over two thousand orphan children in Ohio whose fathers gave up their lives upon the altar of our country, and whose children have been thus deprived of needed protection and support, and

WHEREAS, Many of these little ones are now numbered with the pauper population of our state, and subjected to neglect and cruelty, and exposed to unnumbered and uninvestigated evils in the county infirmaries of our state, and,

WHEREAS, Sacred obligations are upon us while we cherish the memory of our fallen comrades to leave no effort untried to secure the comfort, education and happiness of their children, therefore

Resolved, That the assistant inspector general be appointed as agent of this department under the immediate advice and control of the council of administration, and that it shall be his duty to solicit aid, to receive contributions, and such proposals of assistance from private citizens or corporate bodies as will aid in the accomplishment of this most important work; and that for such service the assistant inspector general shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the council of administration.

J. A. CHASE,
A. G. BYERS,
D. B. CORWIN,
Committee.

Prior to issuing the order assigning the assistant inspector general to duty, in accordance with the above resolutions, a communication was addressed to each member of the council which was returned by each heartily endorsing the plan of at once assigning him to active duty in the work proposed.

The matter is again before you for your approval or rejection. As to your action in the matter I do not permit myself to doubt for a moment.

A great work is to be accomplished, not by your money alone, but by your instrumentality, and by which tardy justice is to be meted out to the helpless, whose main stay and natural protectors have been made a sacrifice at a nation's shrine.

This work is in exact accord with the objects for which we are organized.

The glorious examples set by sister states of the north-west should incite us to go zealously forward in this great work. Economy to the state and people, by the present and future relief of society, imperatively demands the establishment of such a "Home" for the education and proper training of these dependent orphans, many of whom are to be found in our streets and almshouses, not to speak of those who, by their poverty and misfortune, are driven to deeds of crime for which they are thrown into prison. The debt that is due these dependent orphans, for the services and sacrifices of their heroic fathers, should ever be kept above and over all other considerations. It is in payment of this debt that these little ones now have a right to hold up their feeble hands and cry for its redemption, and that justice may be done by feeding, clothing and educating them.

At the close of the address the regular business was commenced. On motion of Major J. S. Clemmer, the department commander was instructed to appoint a committee of three on credentials. The following comrades were appointed such: Committee, J. S. Clemmer, George E. Welles and James Blair.

On motion of Captain S. D. Evans, of Cincinnati, a committee of five on resolutions was appointed as follows: W. C. Bruce, H. G. Armstrong, H. L. Burnett, J. T. Langstroth and Ashley Brown. It was also resolved that all resolutions should be referred to said committee without debate.

On motion the following committee on the affairs of the department was appointed: J. B. Thomas, O. N. McGonigal and L. W. Loomis.

The committee on credentials then made a report which was adopted, the committee being continued. Chaplain Collier was added to the committee on resolutions, and the convention at 12:30 o'clock took a recess until two P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The hour having arrived for the afternoon session the convention was called to order by Gen. Keifer.

Reports of committee on resolutions presented the following as their report:

WHEREAS, The subject of providing a suitable home for the care and education of soldiers' orphans has long engaged the attention of this organization and the citizens of the state of Ohio, therefore

Resolved, By the semi-annual convention of the Grand Army of the Republic of the department of Ohio that the commander of this department be, and he is hereby empowered and instructed to at once appoint a board of control of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home to consist of seven members.

The department inspector general shall be ex-officio member of said board of control. As soon as practicable after their appointment, the department commander shall convene the board for organization when they shall proceed to elect a president, secretary and treasurer, who shall hold their offices at the pleasure of the board. The board shall have power to adopt such rules for their own government as to them may seem best. The said board shall have full power to select suitable places for the location of one or more institutions, in which shall be gathered the orphans of our deceased comrades. They shall have power to make all the necessary arrangements for the erection of suitable buildings, the receiving of moneys and all else contributed by this organization and the citizens for the benefit of the institution. On the completion of the home, and when prepared for the reception of children, the board shall have full power to appoint suitable officers for its management, the compensation they shall receive, and all needed rules and regulations for the government of the home. The members of the board of control, appointed under these resolutions, shall hold their offices at the pleasure of the department encampment, and in case of death, resignation, or removal of any member of the board the vacancy so created shall be filled by the department commander.

On the written complaint of three associates any member of the board may be removed by the department commander, and another appointed in his place, provided, however, the subject matter of complaint shall first have been examined into by the council of administration, the accused being allowed a full hearing in his own defense, and by them certified as approved to the department headquarters. At such time as the department commander shall deem proper he shall have power to add three ladies to the board of control, who shall have the same powers and perform the same duties enjoined upon the other members of the board of control. All the powers usually exercised by directors of similar institutions not mentioned in these resolutions are hereby conferred upon this board. The treasurer of the board of control shall be required to enter into a bond with good and sufficient security, in such sum as the said board may prescribe, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office. The said board of control shall be required to make to department headquarters quarterly reports of the receipts and expenditures of this institution, and all other matters of interest relating thereto. And the department commander is hereby instructed to make the same public in circulars to the posts, and by publication in the newspapers. Five mem-

bers of the board of control shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Resolved, That we earnestly request the co-operation of the people of Ohio in this movement.

The following resolutions introduced by L. D. Griswold were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, We have recently received the painful intelligence that our late comrade, Col. William B. Steadman, U. S. Consul at Santiago, in the island of Cuba, departed this life soon after entering upon the discharge of his official duties, therefore

Resolved, That while we bow with humble submission to that Providence who doeth all things well, we cannot but mourn the loss of our brother, who so recently left his native state in the vigor of health, and in high hopes of exerting his influence in behalf of constitutional liberty among that long oppressed people.

Resolved, That in the death of comrade Steadman the country has lost a brave and gallant soldier, the state a wise and judicious legislator and public-spirited citizen, the community where he resided, a kind and gentle neighbor and friend, and his family a tender husband and father.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family of the deceased, and that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to them, and entered upon the minutes of this convention.

On motion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this department convention be, and the same are hereby tendered to the comrades of the posts of Sandusky and the citizens generally for the very complete arrangements made for the entertainment of the delegates and friends while in this city, and that the ladies especially shall ever be remembered by us with feelings of grateful admiration. Having provided good things for us while in camp and hospital, they still think of the boys in blue for the purpose of adding to our comfort.

The general business of the convention having been completed, special business appertaining to the internal management of the order was then disposed of, and the delegates present were instructed in the ritual, General Keifer and his staff explaining and illustrating for the benefit of the various posts the changes that have been made.

After going through the ritual, no further business appearing, the convention adjourned to meet at Columbus in January next. It is generally conceded by the entire delegation that at no former convention has there has been manifested such a general spirit of interest in the order as at this session. After the adjournment of the convention, Weller post, No. 41, of Sandusky, tendered the delegates and friends an excursion to Put-in-Bay, which was accepted, the Great Western band accompanying the party. Soon after one o'clock the excursionists, a large number of the citizens of Put-in-Bay, and a large delegation from Toledo gathered about the speakers to listen to short addresses in behalf of the proposed plan to establish homes for soldiers' orphans. The crowd now number-

ing over two thousand people was called to order by General J. Warren Keifer, department commander.

Prayer was offered by Chaplain Wm. Earnshaw of the National Soldiers' Home—General Keifer then explained that this meeting was called by order of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Ohio, and all the friends of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans and widows had been invited to attend to take into consideration the necessity and importance of establishing one or more homes for the little ones left fatherless by the war. He would therefore introduce to the audience Gov. R. B. Hayes. Gov. Hayes spoke at some length in favor of providing a suitable home for the care and education of the two thousand children orphans of Ohio Soldiers. He could not believe that the people of Ohio would object to the paying of a slight tax for such a purpose. Lieut. Governor J. C. Lee was next introduced. He scarcely knew what could be said after what Gov. Hayes had said to satisfy his hearers of the importance of the work contemplated. Two hundred children made orphans by the war were now in those institutions provided for the support of common paupers. To know this fact and that there are two thousand children in our state whose fathers lost their lives in defense of their country and our honor, is enough to make me pronounce in favor of this great act of justice.

Gen. Burnett, of Cincinnati, was then introduced. He spoke in the same strain and closed by saying: "This people, the bravest and the best of all people of the earth, will not neglect this matter."

Col. Frank Sawyer, of Newark, next addressed the meeting in his usual energetic manner favoring the humane project.

Captain William C. Bunts of Cleveland related a touching incident connected with his army experience.

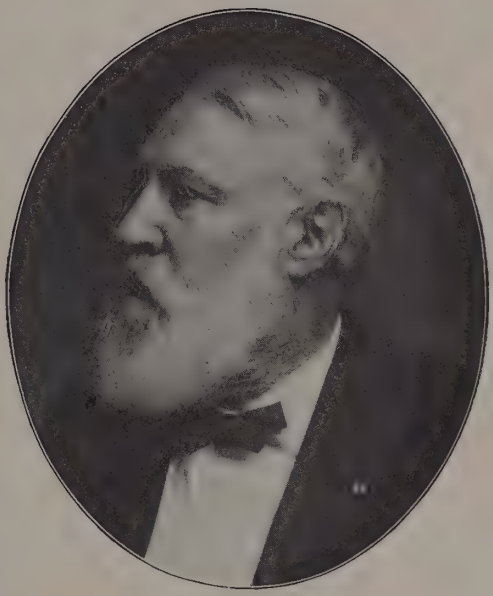
General Brinkerhoff endorsed all that the previous speakers had said. He did not think it necessary to bring line upon line and precept upon precept to impress these truths upon the people of Ohio. He had faith to believe that down deep in the hearts of the people they loved these orphans of our soldiers.

Chaplain Earnshaw made a touching appeal in behalf of the orphans of our fallen comrades. At this point Gen. Burnett of Cincinnati introduced a resolution thanking the various railroad companies of the state, for their liberality to the delegates to the convention. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Chaplain Geo. W. Collier closed with one of the most laughable and amusing speeches of the day. To the soldiers especially it was rich and racy, recalling to their minds incidents of camp-fire. At the close of his remarks he proposed three cheers for a dozen different objects ending up with three times three for General U. S. Grant, the President of the United States.

At 3 o'clock the whistle was sounded for return, and at half-past five the entire party were landed at the steamer's dock in this city.

The day will long be remembered by all present as one of the happiest and most enjoyable. Nothing happened to interrupt the pleasure of the party, and all, both delegates and citizens, expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the trip to Put-in-Bay.



J. WARREN KEIFER.

JOSEPH WARREN KEIFER.

Of Springfield, Ohio, was born January 30, 1836, on a farm in Bethel Township, Clark County, Ohio, where he resided until 1856; educated in common schools and at Antioch College; commenced the study of law on the farm and later pursued it in Springfield, Ohio; was admitted to practice law by the Supreme Court of Ohio, January 12, 1858, in the Circuit Court of the United States (Cincinnati), October 25, 1885, and in the Supreme Court of the United States (Washington), January 14, 1878; and has since practiced his profession when not engaged on some public duty; enlisted as a soldier in the Union Army April 19, 1861; was commissioned major of the Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry April 27, 1861, and promoted to be lieutenant colonel of that regiment February 12, 1862; was commissioned colonel of the One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry September 30, 1862; was appointed brigadier general by brevet November 30, 1864, "for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of Opequon, Fishers Hill, and Cedar Creek, Virginia," and was assigned to duty by President Lincoln as brigadier general December 29, 1864; was appointed, July 1, 1865, major general by brevet "for gallant and distinguished services during the campaign ending in the surrender of the insurgent army under Gen. R. E. Lee;" was mustered out of service June 27, 1865, having been in the Volunteer Army four years and two months; participated in the battles of Rich Mountain (July 11, 1861) and Sailors Creek, Va. (Apr. 6, 1865), about the first and the last battles of the Civil War, and fought in twenty-eight battles, great and small, including the assaults (March and April, 1865) and the capture (Apr. 2, 1865) of Petersburg, Va., commanding in the last two years of the war a brigade or a division (as at Cedar Creek, Va., Oct. 19, 1864, under Sheridan), and was present at the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, Va. (Apr. 9, 1865); was severely wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness (May 5, 1864) and three times slightly wounded, having served in western Virginia and Kentucky in 1861, in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and West Virginia in 1862, in Maryland and Virginia in 1863-1865; was in New York and Brooklyn (August and September, 1863) to enforce the draft; was appointed, without solicitation, on the recommendations of Gens. Grant and Meade, lieutenant colonel of the Twenty-sixth Infantry, United States Army, November 30, 1866, but declined the appointment; was a member of the Ohio State Senate 1868-69; was three years commander of the Department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, 1868, 1869, and 1870, and vice commander-in-chief of that organization 1872-1873; was trustee of the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home from April 16, 1870, to March 5, 1878, and again in 1903-4; was a Representative from Ohio in the Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, and Forty-eighth Congresses (1877-1885), and Speaker of the Forty-seventh Congress (1881-1883; elected Dec. 5, 1881); was major general of Volunteers in the Spanish-American War, June, 9, 1898, to May 11, 1899, and commanded

the First Division, Seventh Army Corps (sometimes the corps) in Florida (Miami and Jacksonville), Georgia (Savannah), and Cuba (Habana and Buena Vista); commanded the United States forces which took possession of Habana, January 1, 1899; was instrumental in organizing and was the first commander-in-chief of the Spanish War Veterans, 1900-1901; was one year commander of the Ohio Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, 1903-4; is author of "Slavery and Four Years of War" (Putnam's, 1990); was a member of Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth and Sixty-first Congresses (1905-1911).

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT—ELECTION OF OFFICERS—LOST RECORDS

Gen. J. Warren Keifer, grand commander.

Gen. William C. Hunts, of Cleveland, senior vice commander.

Mayor Samuel Eaton, of Cincinnati, junior vice commander.

[illegible] chaplain.

[illegible] Lieut. W. E. Perrine, of Lorain; [illegible] Col. R. Moore, of Cleveland; [illegible] streth, of Oxford; Major J. S. Clemmer, of Salem.

[illegible] Maj. Gen. E. B. Tuttle, of Cincinnati; Capt. Theodore Voges, of Cincinnati; Lieutenant Geo. W. Collier, of Fremont; Capt. C. A. Vaughn, of Geneva; Capt. James A. Lantz, of Akron.

The next seventh annual encampment was ordered to be held in Cleveland, on the third Wednesday in June.

The above memorandum of the proceedings of the fourth annual session of the Grand Army of the Republic of the Department of Ohio was copied from a file of the Ohio State Journal of Thursday, January 20th, 1870. My research has failed me in finding any more of the proceedings of this session. If there is any one interested in the history of the order in Ohio, who can furnish a better report of this session we would be pleased to receive it.

F. D. McGuffey,

Late Assistant Adjutant General of the Department of Ohio, G. A. R.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE G. A. R. — FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS, JULY 21, 1870. — CLEVELAND, OHIO.

The council of administration met at the Weddell house yesterday at 11 a. m. The department meeting assembled at 12 m. with the following officers of the department: Gen. J. Warren Keifer, commander; Captain William C. Bunts, senior vice commander; A. M. Aterer, junior vice commander; W. J. Winter, assistant adjutant general; J. H. Robinson, assistant quartermaster general; Rev. Geo. W. Collier, inspector general; U. L. Marvin, judge advocate general; J. B. Thomas, medical director; Rev. William Earnshaw, chaplain.

Council of administration — H. P. Wolcot, James T. Longstroth, J. S. Clemmer, R. M. Moore, W. E. Parmelee.

The department opened with prayer by the chaplain, William Earnshaw. At the conclusion of prayer Gen. J. Warren Keifer addressed the department as follows:

COMRADES: — The semi-annual encampment has assembled in accordance with a resolution of the last department encampment. In accordance with an established custom it becomes my duty to call attention to the past and present condition of the department and important matters of business to be transacted.

The several reports of the department officers will furnish the necessary information upon matters pertaining to their respective offices. From these reports it will be seen that the organization in this department is upon a substantial basis. A continued source of embarrassment to the department is the remissness of posts to cause all reports and dues to be forwarded. As before recommended in general orders, if post commanders would at regular meetings require of each officer to answer whether or not he had prepared all reports, etc., required by the rules and regulations, and if not to explain the reason why not, it is believed that these constantly recurring irregularities would cease and a high state of perfection in the workings of the organization would soon be reached. Post commanders can not shield themselves from the responsibility of these neglects by throwing censure upon their subordinates whose duty it may be to prepare the reports. Section 1 and 4, article 2, chapter 2, rules and regulations, makes it the duty of the post commander to forward all required reports. Notwithstanding the provision in the rules and regulations that "all vacancies in elective offices may be filled by the council of administration," (Sec. 3, Art. V, Chap. 3), I deem it proper to submit to this encampment the question of its right to elect a member of the council of administration vice Comrade James T. Longstroth deceased. It is made the duty of the department encampment by sections 3, 4 and 5, article VI, chapter 3, to determine the compensation that should be paid for the service of the assistant adjutant general, assistant quartermaster general and the inspector of the department.

While it is earnestly recommended that a sum be fixed to pay each of these officers for their service, yet that sum must be regulated by the pecuniary ability of the department to pay. The office of assistant adjutant general is an exceedingly laborious one. The matter of correspondence alone makes the position one of much responsibility. The office of assistant quartermaster general has also much labor and responsibility attached to it, but the fact that the assistant adjutant and assistant quartermaster generals' offices are now kept in the same place in some degree lightens the labor of both. The office of inspector is one of the highest importance to the department and devolves upon the officer filling it considerable expense, loss of time, and much labor and responsibility. As authorized by section 3, article 5, chapter 5, rules and regulations, I have divided the department into inspection districts and appointed and assigned an assistant inspector to each. Much good has already resulted from this plan. A vigorous discharge of duty upon the part of the assistant inspectors in the inspection and instruction of posts and their officers and in the organization of posts where it is believed that a sufficient number of comrades can be brought together to maintain a post that will add much to the strength and efficiency of the organization. All the assistant inspectors are under the immediate direction of the department inspector, to whom they are required to report. I again submit to you the matter of adopting by-laws for the government of the department in accordance with article 10, chapter 3, rules and regulations.

From the several reports of officers of the board of control of the soldiers' orphans' home, appointed by me as required by resolutions of this encampment (July 21, 1869), you will learn what has been accomplished by it since the last meeting of the encampment. Under legislation of the state of Ohio the home established at Xenia, and the orphan children collected there passed April 2d, 1870, under the control of the state, since which time the Grand Army of the Republic has been relieved of the expense of maintaining them. The board of control had succeeded in gathering together about one hundred and twenty-five destitute orphan children and are providing them with a comfortable home, good food and clothing and the means of acquiring a good English education. The board has also acquired the title to one hundred acres of land near Xenia, Ohio, accessibly located, and have caused suitable buildings to be erected thereon which it is expected will be completed in the next two weeks, and when completed the whole will be tendered to the state of Ohio as a gift and an inducement for the state to embark in the high duty of caring for the unfortunate orphan children of our late deceased comrades. It is not now proposed to make any argument in favor of establishing a suitable home for these orphan children. The time has passed for that. Those who are not now convinced of the necessity are too perverse to be reached by argument. A home for these orphans having been established, we must address ourselves to the work of insuring its complete success. The board has also ascertained that there are yet many hundred indigent children of deceased soldiers in the

state who have not been provided for. The board has also, as will appear by the report of its treasurer and acting superintendent, contracted a considerable debt which is yet to be paid. The debt is a sacred one and must be met. The charitable people of Ohio, and especially those of Xenia and Greene county, deserve the highest praise for their liberality in responding to our call. The people of Xenia and Greene county have alone given and secured to be given in lands and money and other property a sum in excess of $25,000 toward this noble purpose. Other places in the state have responded liberally and there are yet others that would have done likewise provided the subject had been brought to their attention. The debt unprovided for, it is our duty to devise ways and means of paying. It is believed that a combined effort upon the part of the comrades of the department will enable us to raise the required means with but little difficulty. The matter is especially commended to you. The board of control consists of Rev. P. P. Ingalls, Gen. James Barnett, Colonel H. G. Armstrong, General George B. Wright, Major M. S. Gunckel, General B. F. Coates, Eli Millen, Esq., Mrs. Lucy Webb Hayes, Mrs. Henrietta L. Monroe and Mrs. Rachel White, collectively and individually deserve the thanks of this department for their gratuitous labors in securing the accomplishment of the great purpose for which they were selected.

The work of the board is now supposed to be very nearly completed. Chaplain Geo. W. Collier, inspector of the department, and ex-officio member of said board, has been constantly and zealously engaged in the work, soliciting funds, etc., in different parts of the state. To his conception of the idea of establishing a home in Ohio, and to his efficient labors to consummate the enterprise so grandly conceived, is mainly due the success that has been attained in that direction. There may be a very few who would criticize his manner of prosecuting the enterprise, but when his whole work is calmly reviewed and all that has been accomplished is considered, it is doubted whether any person will have the bravery to deny that to his untiring perseverance and spirit is mainly due the praise of educating the people of the state to the importance and the present necessity of redeeming a pledge made in the dark days of the republic to the now deceased fathers of the many helpless and poor little ones to be found in our state. I request authority from this encampment to compliment members of the board, and especially Chaplain Collier, in general orders.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The last meeting of the national encampment made many and valuable changes in the rules and regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic. Chief among these are the amendments dispensing with the long period of service required between the different grades before advancement. The two weeks service now required is sufficiently short to enable any comrade to reach the highest grade as soon as he can be well prepared for it. By special dispensation the commander-in-chief

or department commander may receive a recruit and advance him to the second or third grades, or detail a comrade to do so, provided the person so received or advanced resides outside the proper territorial limits of any post.

The same authority may also grant dispensation to any post to waive the rules requiring service before advancement to the several grades: (Sec. 6, Art. V, Chap. VI, new rules and regulations.) A post disbanded at any time may now be reorganized with its original name and number, provided these shall not have been appropriated. In such organizations a new charter will be issued without fee, bearing the names of the new as well as the old members petitioning therefore. (Sec. 3, Art. I, Chap. II, rules and regulations.)

MEMORIAL DAY.

The following was adopted as Art. XIV, Chapt. V, rules and regulations: "The national encampment hereby establish a memorial day to be observed by the members of the Grand Army of the Republic on the 30th day of May annually in commemoration of our fallen comrades. When such a day occurs on Sunday the preceding day shall be observed." Thus it will be seen that a day has been fixed in each recurring year upon which all comrades, fathers, mothers, wives, sisters, friends and lovers of the dead heroes may assemble in the various cities, villages, hamlets and churchyards throughout the land and solemnly engage in commemorating the deeds of our fallen comrades, and in strewing their graves with garlands, wreaths and flowers.

This ceremony, so happily inaugurated by our distinguished commander-in-chief, Gen. John A. Logan, has been for the three years last past so generally and heartily participated in by the loyal people of the country as to insure its perpetual observance in the future. It is true there are those to be found who profess to oppose this ceremony and assign as a reason that it is too expensive, that the money spent for the decoration of graves might be given to the poor. This opposition generally comes from those who seldom, if ever, have any money to dispense to the poor, but are like those of old who expressed indignation at the poor woman in Bethany who poured a box of precious ointment upon the head of her Savior. The rebuke administered to these people for their hypocrisy will be well remembered.

MEMBERS UNDER THE OLD ORGANIZATION.

By resolution of the last national encampment the time in which members under old work might receive the new obligations, etc., it extended to the next session of the national encampment. Posts may remit past dues in such cases at their discretion. This will at once enable all those who were members under the old work to at once receive the several grades under the new.

GRAND ARMY BADGE.

A very handsome badge, designed by Comrade F. A. Starring, inspector general of the G. A. R., was adopted at a special meeting of the national encampment in October last. It is of bronze made from captured cannon, a five pointed star in form, and similar in its general design to medals of honor authorized by act of congress to be given to soldiers and sailors most distinguished for meritorious and gallant conduct during the late war. (For full description see report of the proceedings of the national encampment of 1870.)

It is most earnestly recommended that a committee of this encampment be appointed to examine and report upon the badge, and if it is found, as it is believed it will, to be what is so much needed as a mark of recognition, then that some action be taken to induce the comrades to procure them from the quartermaster general at national headquarters, who alone has them for sale. Section 2, article IX, chapter V, rules and regulations, makes this the badge of membership of the organization.

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

This encampment must fix the time in January next, and also fix the place of holding the next annual encampment.

OBJECTS OF THE G. A. R.

In passing from the more immediate business of the encampment I have thought proper to here set forth the objects of the Grand Army of the Republic, which it is always desirable should be made as public as possible. The objects to be accomplished are: 1st, To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together the soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion. 2d, To assist such former comrades in arms as need help and protection, and to extend the needful aid to widows and orphans of those who have fallen. 3d, To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to its constitution and laws, to discountenance whatever tends to weaken loyalty, incites to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any manner impairs the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions, and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

MEMBERSHIP.

All those who responded to the call of their country in the time of its peril, who performed service in the army, navy or marine corps in the suppression of the late rebellion, and have been honorably discharged therefrom, and who have never borne arms against the United States, and who are also willing to join with their comrades in trying to secure the objects set forth, are eligible to membership.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI CONTRASTED WITH THE G. A. R.

It may not be unprofitable to contrast the "Society of the Cincinnati" with the Grand Army of the Republic. To do this it will be necessary to refer briefly to the history of the former. It will be remembered by students of history that in May, 1783, at a cantonment on the Hudson river, where was assembled many of the most distinguished officers of the army of the revolution, then about to disband, a society was formed and called "the Society of the Cincinnati." The articles for the government of the society were adopted May 13, 1783, and have never been changed, although vigorous efforts were made at a meeting in May, 1784, to change them in respect to some leading features which were found to be very unpopular. General Washington, who was its president from its organization until his death, led off in the effort to change them so as to obviate some of their objectionable features, but the effort failed for want of the acquiescence of some of the state organizations. The institution rested upon two great pillars — friendship and charity. Their benevolent intentions were claimed to be to diffuse comfort and support to any of their unfortunate companions, to wipe the tear from the eyes of the widow who was consigned with her helpless infants to indigence and wretchedness, to succor the fatherless, to secure the female orphan from destruction, and to enable the son to emulate the virtues of the father. The motives which induced the officers to form the organization are summed up in a masterly manner in their circular letter, of which the following is an extract:

"Having lived in the strictest habits of amity through the various stages of war unparalleled in many of its circumstances; having seen the objects for which we have contended happily attained; in the moment of triumphant separation, when were about to act the last pleasing melancholy scene in our military drama; pleasing because we were to leave our country possessed of independence and peace, melancholy because we were to part perhaps never to meet again, while every breast was penetrated with feelings which can be more easily conceived than described, while every little act of tenderness recurred fresh to the recollections, it was impossible not to wish our friendship should be continued; it was extremely natural to desire they might be perpetuated by our posterity to the remotest ages. With these impressions and with such sentiments we candidly confess we signed the institution. We know our motives are unapproachable. Let us then prosecute with ardor what we have instituted in sincerity; let heaven and our own consciences approve our conduct; let our actions be our best comments on our words; and let us leave a lesson to posterity, 'that the glory of soldiers cannot be completed without acting well the part of citizens.'"

There is much in this letter that it will be well for our comrades to heed and remember.

The second baptism of the nation in blood to preserve its dear-bought liberties through a gigantic rebellion was more sanguinary than the first.

There were more lives lost and blood shed in the union army in the single battle of Gettysburg than in the contending armies throughout the entire war of the revolution. The eligibility to membership in the society of the Cincinnati is in singular contrast to that of the Grand Army of the Republic. Those eligible to membership were "all commissioned and brevet officers of the army and navy of the United States who served three years and who left the service with reputations, all officers who were in actual service during the war, all the principal staff officers of the continental army and the officers whose commissions were deranged by resolutions of congress upon the different reforms of the army." It will be observed that officers alone were, under any circumstances, eligible to membership in that society, while in our organization every man who performed service in defense of his country is eligible to membership and is the peer of the officers of the highest rank. With us length of service is not made the test, but only service and honorable discharge. The distinction maintained in the society of Cincinnati against the private soldier, and the fear entertained by many that the object of the society was to permanently establish an aristocracy in the United States based upon military service, caused the society to be bitterly assailed by such men as Adams, Jefferson and others. There were other objections urged against the society that cannot be justly urged against the Grand Army of the Republic, such as the hereditary part designed to perpetuate the existence of the society through the descendants of the original members interference with politics, honorary membership, etc., etc.

The Grand Army of the Republic has nothing in its organization that savors of an aristocracy, there is nothing hereditary about it. By article IX, chapter V, of the rules and regulations, the use of the organization for partisan purposes, the discussion of partisan questions and nominations for political offices, are expressly prohibited, and every plan of honorary membership has been expressly rejected. With the death of the last soldier, sailor and marine who fought in the late rebellion for the preservation of "universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men," will pass away the necessity for the organization of which we are so proud to be members. In this brief reference to the society of the Cincinnati I do not wish to be understood as condemning it, for if all its benevolent acts from the time of its organization to the present were summed up it would make a record of which a nation of people might well be proud. Notwithstanding the early and bitter animosity stirred up against the society, it still has an existence, has its stated meetings and goes forward in consummation of its two great cardinal principles—friendship and charity. In the light of the history of that grand society and believing our organization to be based on broader, more liberal and comprehensive principles and more in harmony with the free spirit of the present age, let us go forward in the consummation of the three great cardinal principles upon which it is based—fraternity, charity and loyalty.

Captain W. J. Winters, assistant adjutant general, then submitted his report.

The report of the board of control of the Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home held at Xenia, July 20, 1870, was then submitted. We regret that lateness of the hour at which it was furnished to us prevents our giving it in full. It states that the action of the legislature in transferring the reform farm for girls at White Sulphur Springs to be used as an orphans' home instead of accepting the home at Xenia as a free will offering, had greatly embarrassed the board of control. But the board of managers, acting under the law passed, consisting of Generals R. P. Buckland, J. Warren Keifer, James Barnett, J. S. Jones, B. Burns, M. F. Force and B. F. Coates, co-operating with the board of control, the children at Xenia were placed in their hands. Under the further provision of the act passed by the legislature that should the capacity of the new home at White Sulphur Springs prove insufficient, the board should be authorized to accept donations of land not less than one hundred and fifty acres and with a capacity for not less than two hundred and fifty orphans, a tender was made to the new board of managers of the home at Xenia in the following terms:

XENIA, O., May 25, 1870.

To the board of managers of the Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home:

Gentlemen: — The board of control of the Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home hereby tender you as the representatives of the state of Ohio one hundred acres of land free of incumbrance, three brick cottages two stories high of three rooms each, and one substantial frame building two stories high, forty by one hundred and fifty-eight feet according to the accompanying plans, sufficient, and in our opinion more than sufficient, for the accommodation of two hundred and fifty children, as provided by the act of the general assembly passed April 14, 1870, the whole situated within one mile of the city of Xenia, Greene county, Ohio.

GEO. B. WRIGHT,
M. S. GUNCKEL,
H. G. ARMSTRONG,
Executive Committee and Trustees.

The tender was accepted and the board state that the transfer will be made by the second week in August, the necessary work of construction being pushed rapidly forward. They further state that their expenses over contributions burthen them with a debt of about $8,000, and call upon the charity of the state to make this good.

In January last there were twenty-seven children in the home at Xenia. There are now 118 enrolled, of whom 45 are absent on furlough and 15 are taken temporarily away. Allusion is made to the death of the physician of the hospital, J. G. Kyle, who gave his gratuitous service to the work. His place has been filled by Dr. McClung, of Xenia. But one death has occurred among the children during the year. The board also allude to several matters of detail which we regret that our space prevents us from publishing in full. The report was approved.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed on credentials.

Committee—Major J. S. Clemmer, B. C. Batting, Geo. A. Blocher.

It was resolved that a committee of five be appointed on reports of officers of the department of Ohio and on general business. Committee—Major U. L. Marvin, Major Theodore Voges, J. G. Mesener, C. A Vaughn and John A Hiviling.

Committee of three on resolutions was appointed; committee—J. K. Hamilton, James Barnett and T. D. McGillicuddy.

Committee on G. A. R. badge adopted at the late national encampment—Captain J. C. Michie, Dr. R. Brundrat and J. T. May.

Committee on Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home—General J. J. Elwell, E. M. Culver, J. A. Chase, S. R. Norris, J. R. Kemp, R. B Crawford and William Earnshaw.

On motion a committee of three was appointed on reception of General John A. Logan, consisting of General J. T. Herrick, George L. Childs, and D. L. Wood.

The department took a recess until 4 p. m.

The department reassembled at 4 p. m., pursuant to adjournment.

The reports from the several committees were read, received and adopted.

The report from the committee on measures for the payment of all indebtedness of the soldiers' orphans' home was read and received after some timely remarks by Generals J. J. Elwell, J. Warren Keifer, James Barnett, Chaplain William Earnshaw, Major U. L. Marvin, judge advocate of the department; Capt. E. M. Culver and T. D. McGillicuddy. It reports that the total indebtedness less assets in the hands of the board of control is $7,539.92 contracted for the support of the home and economically and judiciously expended, and that the debt was a necessity. They recommend that the delegates present in convention make known to the convention forthwith what amount certain and fixed, if any, can be raised in their posts by soldiers' reunions, excursions, representations of the Drummer Boy and other dramas, and subscriptions. That in addition to the sums so pledged that Chaplain Geo. W. Collier and Chaplain William Earnshaw, to be assisted by Colonel Edward Anderson and assistant inspectors detailed by the department commander, to visit the posts and by personal appeals to comrades and friends awaken them to a sense of their duty financially to meet the indebtedness of the Ohio soldiers' orphans' home, and that in this way the amount of said indebtedness can be easily raised by the time fixed for the annual convention. They further recommended the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the earnest, grateful thanks of the comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Ohio, are due and are hereby tendered to P. P. Ingalls, president; H. G. Armstrong, secretary; M. S Gunckel, treasurer; George B. Wright, B. F. Coates, James Barnett, Eli Miller, Mrs. Lucy Webb Hayes, Mrs. Henrietta S. Monroe, Mrs. Rachel White, members of the board of control Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, and Chaplain Geo. W. Collier.

The delegates present pledged the following amounts:

Dayton Soldiers' Home	$1,000
Springfield	300
Akron	250
Cincinnati	2,000
Cleveland	500
Toledo	500
Erie county	200
Youngstown	300
Massillon	100
Geneva	100
Kent	50
Hudson	75
Logan county	200
Sylvania	50
Cuyahoga Falls	50
Talmadge	100

The encampment adjourned to eight o'clock this morning. [July 22d, 1870.]

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The department encampment of Ohio reassembled at 8 o'clock a. m., pursuant to adjournment.

It was resolved that a committee of three be appointed on by-laws for the department encampment. Adopted. George L. Childs, W. F. Hindman and E. S. Coe were appointed.

It was also resolved that a committee of three be appointed on a seal for the department. Adopted. W. J. Winter, James E. Stewart and John A. Hivling were appointed.

The committee on resolutions reported the following, which were adopted after fitting remarks on the death of Captain James F. Longstroth, by Chaplains William Earnshaw and George W. Collier:

Resolved, That on the occasion of this the seventh semi-annual convention of the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, we congratulate our comrades of the order on its improved and prosperous condition throughout the state and union, and this fact assures us that the reasons which originally induced the establishment of the order are as strong now as ever to maintain its prosperity and vigor as long as the recollections of the common dangers, hardships and glories of the war for the union are cherished by its survivors, or as long as there remains among us the disabled comrades or the widows or orphans of the soldier whose misfortunes and sufferings may be relieved by our sympathy and assistance.

Resolved, That we congratulate the people of Ohio upon the successful establishment on a permanent footing of a splendid state institution where the orphan children of deceased soldiers may be supported and

educated at the expense and under the benevolent care of the state whose name and for whose protection their natural supporters sacrificed their lives.

Resolved, That the convention tenders the most grateful thanks of the soldiers of Ohio to those communities and private citizens who so generously contributed money and means to assist us in the establishment and support of the soldiers' orphans' home, and that we also extend our thanks to the representatives of the people in the general assembly who so wisely obeyed the unanimous wishes of their constituents in binding the state by solemn legal enactment to the fulfilment of the pledge made to the soldiers when they went to the battlefield that the people would provide for their little ones should their bravery and patriotism make them orphans.

Resolved, That whereas the report of the board of control of the home shows that a debt of considerable magnitude has been unavoidably incurred in the support of the enterprise, we, the delegates to this convention, do unanimously pledge ourselves to use every energy in our power to provide ways and means for the speedy payment of said indebtedness.

Resolved, That in the death Comrade James F. Longstroth, at the time of his decease a member of the department council of administration, we deplore the loss of one who had always been an active and prominent member of the order, who in time of war was a brave, gallant and successful soldier, and in all the relations of civil life a useful and respected citizen; that we tender to the family and friends of the deceased our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of the above resolutions be engrossed by the adjutant and transmitted to the widow of the deceased.

Resolved, That the thanks of the convention are due and are hereby tendered to the Cleveland posts for the attention and courtesy displayed by them toward the delegates to this convention.

Resolved, That the thanks of this convention are hereby tendered to the different railroads leading into Cleveland for the facilities afforded by them for the transportation of delegates.

J. K. Hamilton,
James Barnett,
T. D. McGillicuddy,
Committee.

On motion of T. D. McGillicuddy, of Post 12, Akron, that we now proceed to locate the place and time of the annual meeting of the department encampment, which resulted in the selection of Massillon, on the fourth Wednesday of January, 1871.

On motion, L. D. Griswold, superintendent of the soldiers' orphans' home, at Xenia, Ohio, addressed the encampment on the internal workings of the home.

The encampment elected J. R. Kemp, of Youngstown, a member of the council of administration vice Comrade James F. Longstroth, deceased.

The encampment received an invitation from Captain T. T. Sweeney to assemble at the monument on public square to have a group photograph taken. Accepted.

After the benediction by Chaplain William Earnshaw the department encampment adjourned at 11 a. m.

In the afternoon the members went on an excursion on the steamer Northwest.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE G. A. R. DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, JANUARY 25, 1871.

The annual meeting of the department convened at the opera house, Massillon, Ohio, January 25, 1871, General J. Warren Keifer presiding. After prayer by Department Chaplain William Earnshaw, the department commander appointed the following committees:

On Credentials—J. A. Hivling, J. F. Allen, R. B. Crawford, Theo. Voges and L. W. Loomis.

Affairs of the Department—J. S. Clemmer, L. E. Jones and Geo. T. Perkins.

Resolutions—C. O. Driscoll, U. L. Marvin and Wm. Earnshaw.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home—Wm. C. Bunts, J. H. Earl, J. B. Thomas, John O. McGowan, G. W. Boyd, B. C. Batten and L. J. McMurray.

After the address of the department commander the meeting adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

At the appointed time the meeting was called to order by Gen. J. Warren Keifer, department commander, and the reports of Assistant Adjutant General W. J. Winter and Assistant Quartermaster J. H. Robinson, were read, and on motion the same were referred to the committee on the affairs of the department.

The report of the committee on credentials was then read and adopted. (No record of the report appears on the minutes of the meeting.)

The report of the committee on soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home was presented and adopted, viz.: The committee appointed to investigate the report and proceedings of the treasurer of the board of control of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, beg leave to report that they have examined his report with the vouchers accompanying the same, and find the same correct in every particular, and that the money expended has been judiciously and economically paid out. On motion it was resolved that the legislature of the state ought, by appropriate legislation, liquidate the debt on the soldiers' and sailors' home.

The report of the committee on affairs of the department was presented and adopted. (No report of the committee on record.)

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

The council of administration and department officers met at the room of the assistant adjutant general.

The following were present: J. Warren Keifer, department commander; W. C. Bunts, senior vice commander; W. J. Winter, assistant adjutant general; J. H. Robinson, assistant quartermaster general; U.

L. Marvin, judge advocate general; W. E. Parmelee and J. S. Clemmer, of the council of administration.

On motion Comrades Parmelee, Marvin, and Bunts were appointed a committee to examine the books and papers of the assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general. The committee after a full examination reported everything satisfactory.

Resolved, That a per capita tax of forty cents be recommended to the encampment as the dues for the next year.

Resolved, That the assistant quartermaster general, J. H. Robinson, be allowed fifty dollars for his services for the past year and that the assistant adjutant general be allowed two hundred and fifty dollars for the same period.

On motion adjourned.

W. J. WINTER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Approved. E. M. HESSLER,
Assistant Quartermaster General, 1871.

On motion the encampment proceeded to the election of department officers, council of administration and delegates to the national encampment with the following result:

Department Commander, William C. Bunts, Cleveland; Senior Vice Commander, J. B. Thomas, Soldiers' Home, Dayton; Junior Vice Commander, J. S. Clemmer, Salem; Medical Director, G. W. Boyd, Xenia; Chaplain, William Earnshaw, Soldiers' Home. Council of Administration, John A. Hivling, Xenia; J. H. Seymour, Hudson; J. N. Allen Maumee City; C. A. Vaughn, Geneva; J. Armstrong, Alliance. Delegates to national encampment, J. Warren Keifer, Springfield; J. O. McGowan, Steubenville; N. E. Parmelee, Jr., Toledo; C. O. Driscoll, National Military Home, Dayton. Alternates, Theo. Voges, Cleveland; T. C. Boon, Salem; Geo. Blocker, National Military Home; O. C. Wilson, Sylvania.

On motion Xenia was selected for the semi-annual meeting to be held July 19th, 1871. The following resolutions were then adopted:

WHEREAS, A proposition having been made in the United States Senate, to have Arlington Heights restored to its former owners, and the union soldiers there interred, removed; therefore be it,

Resolved, By the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Ohio, that Arlington Heights, having been set apart as a cemetery for our brave comrades, who fell in defence of their country, we ask our members in congress, that they will now and forever most strenuously disapprove the restoration of said property, or any act which will disturb this, the resting place of our fallen comrades.

Resolved, That we greet with scorn any attempt thus made to honor or recognize traitors that treat with disrespect the memories of those heroes who sealed their patriotism with their blood.

Resolved, That while we can forgive those who may have erred, we cannot soon forget the faithful defenders of our country, and exchange honor of *patriots* with dishonor of *rebels.*

The following resolution was then offered by Comrade John A. Hivling, of Xenia:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this encampment be tendered to Hart post No. 2, G. A. R., of Massillon, for their earnest and untiring endeavors to entertain the visiting comrades, and that we will always remember Hart post with fraternity, charity and loyalty.

The meeting took a recess until 9 A. M. next day.

THURSDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Meeting called to order by Senior Vice Commander William C. Bunts.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy of Akron, it was resolved that each post in the department hold an entertainment or series of entertainments the profits of which should be applied to the liquidation of the debt of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, incurred under the board of control appointed by the department commander, which is about fifteen hundred dollars.

On motion it was resolved that the thanks of this department be tendered to our late commander J. Warren Keifer, for his untiring zeal and faithful devotion to the interests of our order.

Resolved, That the thanks of this department be extended to W. J. Winter, assistant adjutant general, for the most faithful and efficient manner in which he has discharged every duty and met every obligation of that most arduous and unremunerative office of assistant adjutant general.

On motion it was resolved that the commander of the department appoint a committee of three to correspond with the different posts, and see in what manner the amount of money could be raised with which to pay the debt of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, the names to be announced through general orders.

Resolved, That the delegates to the national encampment be instructed to vote against any advance in the rate of dues to national headquarters, and if possible, have the percentage reduced.

Resolved, That the thanks of the department are due to J. H. Robinson, assistant quartermaster general, for the faithful manner in which he has taken care of the funds coming into his possession.

Resolved, That the per capita tax for the next year be forty cents on each member, payable quarterly as heretofore.

Resolved, That the *Grand Army Journal* be the recognized organ of this department.

Resolved, That the delegates to the national encampment be instructed to have a uniform seal adopted for the Grand Army of the Republic.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report at the next meeting on the subject of a regalia.

Comrades J. H. Earl, of Massillon, L. E. Jones, of Alliance, and R. B. Crawford, of Massillon, were appointed.

On motion a recess was taken until July 19th, 1871, to meet at Xenia. After adjournment the following dispatches were received and answered:

FRATERNAL GREETINGS.

ALLENTOWN, PA., January 26, 1871.

To the Encampment of the G. A. R. of Ohio.

The department of Pennsylvania in session here sends fraternal greetings to the comrades in session at Massillon, Ohio.

H. R. CALHOUN,
Department Commander.

To the Encampment Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R.

Hart Post No. 2, G. A. R., department of Ohio, sends greetings to our comrades of Pennsylvania and informs them that the department encampment here adjourned at 12 M. to-day.

R. B. CRAWFORD,
P. C. Post No. 2, G. A. R.

Massillon, Ohio, January 26, 1871.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., January 26, 1871.

To the Encampment G. A. R. of Ohio.

The department of New York in session at Syracuse sends fraternal greetings to the comrades assembled at Massillon in friendship, charity and loyalty.

JOHN C. ROBINSON,
Department Commander.

MASSILLON, OHIO, January 26, 1871.

The department of Ohio reciprocates your fraternal greetings and hopes your deliberations may be as pleasant as ours have been.

W. J. WINTER,
A. A. G.

Official:
E. M. HESSLER,
Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Ohio

SEMI-ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R., XENIA, JULY 27, 1871.

The semi-annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of Ohio met at their hall, on Detroit street, at 10 1-2 o'clock, on the morning of the 27th of July, 1871, Capt. W. C. Bunts, Department commander, in the chair. Chaplain Earnshaw opened the exercises with prayer. The following committees were appointed by the commander:

On Credentials—Comrades Robinson, Hessler and Noyes.

Affairs of the Department—Vaughan, Seymour, Clemens, Gunckel, Robinson.

Resolutions—Barber, Earnshaw and Fox.

Orphans' Home—G. W. Eard, J. B. Thomas, J. A. Hivling, E. M. Culver, W. J. Winter.

Some time was consumed in the appointment of the committees. Dr Griswold invited the Convention to visit the Home at 6 o'clock p. m., which was accepted.

Convention took a recess till half-past one o'clock p. m.

Convention reassembled at 2 o'clock.

The Committee on Credentials reported, after which Grand Commander, Capt. W. C. Bunts, presented his semi-annual address. We hope to be able to present this address in full, in our columns, at an early day. It was short and pointed.

The Assistant Adjutant General's report was read, showing the condition of the order in the State up to this date.

The Quarter-Master General's report was read.

The Committee on Resolutions reported through its Chairman, Chaplain Earnshaw, as follows:

1st. *Resolved,* That, as ever, we are deeply interested in the success of our long cherished work, the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, located in this city, and by every legitimate means we will labor for its triumph.

2nd. *Resolved,* That our heartfelt thanks are due and are hereby tendered to Dr. L. D. Griswold, the superintendent, for his untiring efforts in the management of the "Home."

3rd. *Resolved,* That we heartily endorse the action of the National Encampment in simplifying the Ritual, and in making the arrangement by which all soldiers and sailors who have been acceptable members of our order may return thereto.

4th. *Resolved,* That we will use our best endeavors to extend our order by explaining its objects and urging all good soldiers and sailors to join us.

5th. *Resolved,* That the Department of Ohio, G. A. R., will ever gratefully remember the good citizens of Xenia, for their great liberality and untiring labors in the interest of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home.

The report of the Committee on the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, showed the indebtedness of the old board of control of the Home to be about $5,000. A motion to lay the report on the table was lost.

The greater portion of the afternoon session was occupied in the discussion of the matter of the debt contracted by the order for the establishment of the Orphans' Home. Comrades Gunckel and Winter entered spiritedly into this discussion, and brought out some facts and displayed some bile.

Dr. G. M. Boyd, Medical Director, presented his report, showing that the posts were in a healthy condition. The report from Post No. 5, Soldiers' Home, Dayton, was interesting. All the members have been injured in some way. After the consideration of matters of minor importance, the encampment adjourned to the Corey House, where an early supper was provided. After supper conveyances were on hand to carry the members to the Orphans' Home, where they were met and cordially entertained by Dr. Griswold and his assistants, with a repast of ice cream and cakes.

Dr. Griswold, in a few appropriate remarks, expressed his gratification at meeting so many of the members of the G. A. R. For the organization he had great respect. To it was the State indebted for that Home. Capt. Bunts replied in a neat and patriotic manner, and the party returned to the hall where the evening session was held. This session was occupied in the consideration of the indebtedness of the order of $5,000 for the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, and various means of liquidating that debt were discussed. At length a plan was adopted which will be probably successful. Spirited addresses were made by Capt. Earnshaw, Capt. Bunts, Maj. Winter, Capt. Vaughn, and others. A resolution was passed extending thanks to the members of Scott and Steele posts, for the cordial entertainment of the delegates, to the members of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home band for music and to the railroads for reduced fare.

Akron was chosen as the place of holding the next meeting, in January, 1872. Songs were sung and the encampment adjourned.

On Friday morning a special train left the depot for the Soldiers' Home, Dayton, bearing about 200 excursionists, including the delegates. There a free dinner would be provided for them by the posts of the Home. After enjoying the hospitalities of that institution, and admiring the beauties of the Home provided for the wounded and disabled soldiers, the members of the encampment dispersed to their homes. The meeting was a pleasant one and business of importance was attended to.

SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

AKRON, OHIO, Jan. 24th, 1872.

The department encampment was called to order at 11 o'clock a. m. in Buckley post, Grand Army hall, by Department Commander Capt. Wm. C. Bunts of Cleveland.

The following department officers were present: Capt. William C. Bunts, department commander; Maj. J. S. Clemmer, junior vice commander; E. M. Hessler, assistant adjutant general; Theo. Voges, assistant quartermaster; G. W. Boyd, medical director, and a very gratifying number of delegates.

Department Chaplain being absent prayer was dispensed with and the encampment proceeded at once to appoint the following committees:

ON CREDENTIALS.

E. N. Hessler, Cleveland; Thos. Voges, Cleveland; J. H. Seymour, Hudson; L. W. Loomis, Cuyahoga Falls; J. W. Smith, Toledo.

OF AFFAIRS OF DEPARTMENT.

Comrades James Barnett, Cleveland; M. S. Gunckel, Dayton; George T. Perkins, Akron.

ON RESOLUTIONS.

U. L. Marvin, Akron; G. M. Boyd, Xenia; L. J. Jones, National Military Home.

At this juncture of the proceedings a comrade of Buckley post No. 12, of Akron, asked permission to offer the following: We are informed that a poor disabled soldier has just arrived in town destitute and is desirous of raising means sufficient to enable him to reach Meadville, Pa.; therefore I would move that a committee of two be appointed to take up a collection for his benefit. Amended—That the surplus, if any, be donated to Buckley post. Further amended—That full amount collected be donated to disabled soldier. Carried.

Comrades Clemmer and Horton appointed said committee who collected the sum of twelve dollars which was handed over to the destitute soldier who proceeded on his way rejoicing, feeling very grateful to the G. A. R. of the department of Ohio.

Moved to adjourn until two o'clock p. m. Carried.

Council of administration met at 1:30 p. m. at the rooms of the assistant adjutant general in the Empire House. (No report of council on record.)

Encampment assembled pursuant to adjournment at 2 p. m. in Temperance hall (G. A. R. hall having proved of insufficient capacity).

Department commander delivered his annual address and the assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general read their reports. (Neither of the reports or addresses are on record.)

Committee on credentials reported the following delegates present:

Post No. 2, F. H. Seymour and J. G. Steward; No. 5, Giddinger, Jones, Blocker and Flood; No. 10, C. A. Russell; No. 12, S. C. Williamson, R. F. Palmer, T. D. McGillicuddy, D. W. Thomas; No. 15, J. W. Smith, M. J. Enright and Comrade Morris; No. 20, M. S. Gunckel; No. 23, Horton, Somers and J. C. Roland; No. 27, S. S. Peck; No. 28, D. B. Sims; No. 37, W. O. Beebe; No. 43, W. C. Sickles; No 67, J. C. Bremer; No. 68, J. W. Foley and F. B. Wadham, Jr.; No. 69, Chas. Messer; No. 70, R. B. Iruench; No. 74, James Braden; No. 77, Joseph Lackey; No. 83, F. E. Eggleston; No. 40, B. C. Batten.

Committtee on affairs of the department reported as follows:

Your committee beg leave to report that in looking over the affairs of the department as presented to them, they find that the administration of affairs have been ably conducted by the present officers and that while your committee have to report a general apathy with many posts, they find that the department officers have very efficiently carried out the duties assigned them.

Your committee beg leave to suggest that in view of the fact that the next national encampment is to be held in Cleveland in May, it seems eminently proper that the present meeting of this encampment should take some steps that will answer the perfect carrying out of the necessary arrangements for the reception.

Your committee feel that not only the interest of the Grand Army of the Republic, but our state should prompt us to exert ourselves, especially in making arrangements for the occasion.

JAMES BARNETT,
M. S. GUNCKEL,
GEO. T. PERKINS,
Committee.

The committee on the report of the council of administration made the following report:

Having been appointed as a committee to examine the books and papers of the assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general of this department I proceeded to examine, first, the assistant adjutant general's, which I found were kept in a systematic manner and the amount received by him for charters, rituals, rules and regulations and blanks for the year to be $217.30; expenses for the year for rituals, blanks, printing general orders and postage $266.65; expenses in excess of receipts $49.35, for which amount an order has been drawn on the assistant quartermaster general to balance. In conclusion I would state that the com-

mittee recommend the appropriation of the sum of $200 be paid the assistant adjutant general for his efficient services rendered this department.

I next examined the assistant quartermaster general's books and vouchers and found them kept in a reliable manner, showing that during the year the receipts were $524.32; expenses for same period $272.52; balance on hand $251.86.

Your committee recommends that the sum of $51.80 be paid the assistant quartermaster general for services rendered.

One hundred ($100) dollars of the expense account was paid to liquidate a debt of the last administration. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. Seymour,
Chairman Committee, etc.

Medical director's report read and approved. (No record of said report.)

Report of committee on soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home read and placed on file. (Abstract "A.")

On motion the committee was continued with full powers to use such means as they deem proper to influence the legislature to liquidate the debt and that such delegates as are apointed, draw upon Comrade Gunckel for expenses from a fund of some $400 in his hands. Carried.

Committee on resolutions reported as follows:

Resolved, That the objects and aims of the Grand Army of the Republic are such as to commend the organization to every loyal citizen and to merit the membership of every man who has ever honorably served the government as a soldier or sailor.

Resolved, That we individually and collectively pledge ourselves to use our earnest endeavors to enlarge the membership and increase the usefulness of the order.

Resolved, That the establishment of the Soldier's and Sailors' Orphans' Home at Xenia, by the department of Ohio, G. A. R., is an act of which we may well be proud and sufficiently testifies to the charitable objects of the organization.

Resolved, That the thanks of every member of the order in this department are due to Comrade W. C. Bunts for the faithful discharge of his duties as commander of this department for the past year, and that such thanks are also due to Comrade E. M. Hessler and Theo. Voges for their efficiency in the discharge of their duties as assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster respectively.

U. L. Marvin,
G. M. Boyd,
L. J. Jones,
Committee.

Inspector's report was read and placed on file. (Abstract B.)

Committee on Sabbath school fund made a report. (See abstract C.)

Upon motion said committee was continued and Comrade Boyd of the committee was empowered to employ an attorney to proceed and enjoin the expenditure of the money in this fund for a pastor as is being done,

there being, as Comrade Boyd states, a sufficiency of pastoral service gratuitously to meet all demand.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Comrade Geo. A. Blocker:

WHEREAS, The veterans at the National Asylum at Dayton, having formed themselves into an association called "The Monumental and Historical Association of the Soldiers' Home at Dayton," whose purpose it is to collect mementoes of the war, for a historical museum, and to erect a monument for the perpetuation of the memories of the private soldiers who die in the Home; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we feel it a duty incumbent on us to give the above association cheerful countenance and substantial aid, in so laudable a purpose, and to that end, every comrade here present pledges himself to make a personal effort in the matter of collecting and forwarding to the association military objects of interest for the museum and funds for the soldiers' monument. Carried.

The following communication was received from Forsythe post No. 15, Toledo:

At a regular meeting of Forsythe post on the evening of January 17th, 1872, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this post desires, through its delegate to the annual encampment of the G. R. R., Department of Ohio, which will assemble at Akron, Ohio, on the 24th day of January, 1872, to call the attention of the delegates in attendance at said encampment from other portions of the state to the claim and advantage of Toledo as the place for holding the next semi-annual encampment of this department, and should Toledo be chosen, this post gives assurance of an earnest endeavor to make pleasant the visit of all comrades who may be in attendance.

B. F. MILLER,
Post Commander.

Official,
A. E. SCOTT, P. A.

On motion of T. D. McGillicuddy, of Buckley Post No. 12, of Akron, the invitation was accepted, and Toledo selected as the place for holding the semi-annual session of the G. A. R. of Ohio, July 24, 1872.

On motion of Comrade Horton, of Cleveland, the encampment proceeded to the election of officers for ensuing year. After quite a spirited canvass the following were elected:

Department Commander, W. C. Bunts, Cleveland; Senior Vice Commander, J. W. Smith, Toledo; Junior Vice Commander, J. S. Clemmer, Salem; Chaplain, William Earnshaw, Dayton; Medical Director, G. M. Boyd, Xenia. Council of administration, Comrades J. H. Seymour, Hudson; W. D. Moone, Sylvania; Geo. A. Blocker, National Military Home; H. B. Walcott, Geneva; E. M. Culver, Sandusky.

Delegates to national encampment, Comrade M. J. Enright, Toledo; Comrade C. A. Vaughn, Geneva; Comrade J. Warren Keifer, Springfield; Comrade Geo. A. Blocker, Dayton.

Alternates.—Comrade M. S. Gunckel, Dayton; Comrade J. K. Hamilton, Toledo; Comrade S. C. Williamson, Akron; Comrade S. C. Coe, Cleveland.

After announcing the result of election, the encampment proceeded to further business.

Moved that the assistant adjutant general of the department be allowed the sum of five hundred dollars per year to pay clerk hire, necessary help for the discharge of his duties, said sum to be raised by per capita tax and that the present per capita tax be increased by sixty cents, (60c.) for said purpose. Carried.

Upon motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, the encampment took a recess until 9 o'clock A. M., January 25, 1872.

Pursuant to adjournment the encampment was called to order at 9 o'clock A. M., January 25, 1872.

Upon call of Comrade E. M. Culver, of Sandusky, the minutes of the preceding day's meeting were read and approved.

The duly accredited representatives were then instructed in the new unwritten work of the order and the national countersign communicated to them.

On motion of Comrade E. M. Hessler:

That our delegates to the national encampment be instructed to pray that body to cancel the charter of all who, after the sixty days' notice, fail to make reports and pay dues. Carried.

On motion of Comrade U. L. Marvin:

That we instruct our delegates to the national encampment to urge the addition of one or more grades to our ritual. Carried.

By same: That the department commander notify posts in the department to report and pay dues within sixty days or surrender charter. Carried.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, delegates to national encampment were instructed to urge the adoption of semi-annual instead of quarterly reports. Carried.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The excellent music furnished by Babcock's band has contributed largely to the pleasure of the delegates to this encampment; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the thanks of this encampment be tendered to said band, and that said resolution be included in the published account of proceedings.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Army Republic are due Buckley Post for their kindness and hospitality in entertaining the comrades of the Encampment. Carried.

There being no further business, Encampment adjourned to meet at Toledo, Ohio, on Monday, July 24th, 1872.

WM. C. BUNTS,
Department Commander.

Official,

E. M. HESSLER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

I certify that this is a correct copy from the records of the department in a book now in my charge.

T. D. MCGILLICUDDY,
Late Ass't Adj't. Gen'l.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

DAYTON, OHIO, January 22, 1873.

The seventh annual meeting of the department encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of Ohio convened at the hall of post No. 20 at Dayton, Ohio, January 22d, 1873, Comrade W. C. Bunts presiding. After prayer by Comrade William Earnshaw, department chaplain, the commander appointed the following committees:

ON CREDENTIALS.

Comrades D. F. Giddinger, Geo. A. Blocker, Clarence Morris, James Hays, Jno. A. Hoffman, John C. Roland.

ON AFFAIRS OF DEPARTMENT.

Comrades M. S. Gunckel, L. W. Loomis, Judge S. C. Williamson.

ON RESOLUTIONS.

Comrades C. A. Vaughn, C. L. Russell, W. H. Caley.

Letters of regret were read from Comrades J. W. Smith, senior vice commander, and E. F. Taylor, of Zanesville, Ohio.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Report of commander with statement that Comrade E. M. Hessler, A. A. G., was unable to attend the encampment on account of illness.

By reason of the absence of the assistant adjutant general no report was had from his department.

Quartermaster general's report deferred until second day.

Committee on credentials reported the following delegates present.

Post No. 2, T. H. Seaman; No. 5, Geo. A. Blocker, Jno. S. Kinner, Jno. D. Gibson, Owen Welch and D. F. Giddinger; No. 10, W. G. Bently; No. 12, D. W. Thomas, S. C. Williamson and T. D. McGillicuddy; No. 15, Wm. Golden, C. A. Hall and O. Klemm; No. 23, James Hays and John C. Roland; No. 28, C. A. Vaughn; No. 37, L. W. Loomis; No. 68, James H. Seymour; No. 69, Jno. A. Hoffman; No. 83, W. H. Caley; No. 80, C. L. Russell; No. 87, W. E. Jackson; No. 45, H. McQuestion; No. 20, M. S. Gunckel and J. B. Thomas

Committee on affairs of the department and council of administration were granted further time on account of the absence of a report from quartermaster general.

Committee on resolutions reported as follows:

1st. *Resolved,* That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a suitable banner for the department encampment and shall have inscribed thereon the following sentence: "Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home; established 1868," and such other inscriptions as they may deem proper.

2d. *Resolved,* That this banner shall be the property of this department encampment and held in trust by the post showing the largest percentage of gain in membership upon their rolls at each meeting of the encampment and shall be delivered in trust to the representatives of such post, by the department commander, at the annual and semi-annual meeting of this encampment.

3d. *Resolved,* That a committee of seven be appointed annually by the department commander whose duty it shall be to visit the Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, at Xenia, in the interest of the orphans there, at least once semi-annually and report at the annual and semi-annual meetings of this encampment.

4th. *Resolved,* That the thanks of this encampment are hereby tendered to Edward F. Noyes, governor of Ohio, for his earnest appeal to both houses of the general assembly on behalf of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, as, in a great measure, his hearty co-operation with the committee of this encampment enabled this department to free itself from debt and cause the state to assume a just obligation given by this department in the infancy of the home.

5th. *Resolved,* That a certified copy of this resolution be sent to Edward F. Noyes, governor.

6th. *Resolved,* That this encampment, assembled in the city of Dayton, January 22d, 1873, fully endorse the soldiers and sailors homestead act now before the congress of the United States giving to each and every soldier and sailor who served during the late rebellion ninety days, one hundred and sixty acres of the public lands.

7th. *Resolved,* That a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the chairman on military affairs in the senate of the United States.

8th. *Resolved,* That the earnest and sincere thanks of this encampment be extended to the department commander, senior and junior vice commanders, medical director and chaplain for the able, courteous and dignified manner in which they have conducted the arduous duties of their positions.

9th. *Resolved,* That the thanks of this encampment be and hereby are tendered to Comrade E. M. Hessler, assistant adjutant general and Theo. Voges, assistant quartermaster general for the able manner in which they have discharged their arduous duties.

10th. *Resolved,* That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a suitable testimonial to be presented to Comrade E. M. Hessler, assistant adjutant general of the department of Ohio for his efficient and valuable services during the past two years.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy the above resolutions were acted upon separately, all being adopted but resolutions six and seven, which were laid on the table until Thursday, January 23.

The committee on making the order in this department beneficiary was granted further time.

Adjourned to meet at soldiers' home at 10 o'clock, A. M., January 23d, 1873.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The encampment was formally received by Veteran Post, No. 5, of the military asylum of disabled soldiers, Chaplain William Earnshaw welcoming the comrades in a few well chosen remarks. Commander Wm. C. Bunts replying on behalf of the encampment in an appropriate manner.

Reading of assistant quartermaster general's report. (No record of said report.)

On motion of D. W. Thomas, the encampment proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

Department commander, G. M. Barber, Cleveland; senior vice commander, J. S. Clemmer, Salem; junior vice commander, M. S. Gunckel, Dayton; medical director, G. M. Boyd, Xenia; chaplain, Wm. Earnshaw, Dayton.

Council administration—Comrades E. F. Brown, Dayton; O. Klemm, Toledo; C. L. Russell, Cleveland; J. H. Seymour, Hudson; C. A. Vaughn, Geneva.

Delegates to national encampment—Comrades Clarence Morris, Toledo; C. L. Russell, Cleveland.

Alternates—Comrade J. H. Seymour, Hudson; J. B. Thomas, Dayton.

The council of administration, having completed their report, submitted the following: Two members of council present. We examined the books of the quartermaster general and find receipts during the year amounting to $551.85; disbursements, $310.09; balance on hand $241.76.

Number of posts remaining in good standing, twenty-three; number of members in good standing, about eight hundred.

The plans for making the order beneficiary are in the hands of a committee named in general orders.

No inspection of posts has been since the spring of 1872.

The reason given for not complying with an order emanating from national headquarters to inspect this department, received in December, 1872, is that there was not time to thoroughly inspect all the posts in the department before the annual meeting.

We regret sincerely the sickness of Assistant Adjutant General E. M. Hessler and G. M. Boyd, medical director; and owing to the assistant adjutant general's sickness, his books not being before us, we cannot report in full.

Dues unpaid about, $25.

We cannot find how much is due the assistant adjutant general, as we do not know how much he has in his possession of department money and effects. No money has been paid to him as salary.

We are of the opinion, owing to the less number of blanks and reports required, that the salary of the assistant adjutant general should be one hundred dollars annually. Owing to the indebtedness of the department the assistant quartermaster general makes no charges for his services as such.

His books and vouchers correspond with the amount as stated in his report January 23d, 1873.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. SEYMOUR,
Chairman Council Administration.

Received and adopted.

Committee on affairs of the department submitted the following report:

Your committee on affairs of the department beg leave to report that we have found the department in a flourishing and prosperous condition excepting in the matter of its finances.

2d. To relieve the department we would recommend that the annual salary of the assistant adjutant general be one hundred dollars.

M. S. GUNCKLE,
L. W. LOOMIS,
S. C. WILLIAMSON,
Committee.

Received and adopted.

In compliance with resolutions one, three and ten, as reported by the committee on resolutions, the commander appointed the following committees:

On testimonial to Comrade E. M. Hessler, Comrades C. A. Vaughn, Clarence Morris and James Hays.

On banner, Comrades James Hays, John A. Hoffman, John C. Roland and on motion, W. H. Pepperday.

To visit soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home at Xenia, Comrades T. P. Lough, Dayton; J. A. Hivling, Xenia; R. B. Crawford, Massillon; D. W. Thomas, Akron; S. C. Williamson, Akron; James Hays, Cleveland; Rollin Horton, Cleveland.

The motion of T. D. McGillicuddy to take up resolutions six and seven as reported by committee on resolutions was lost.

By Comrade S. C. Williamson:

Resolved, That the delegates to the national encampment be instructed to use their best endeavors to urge a simplification of the reports required of the assistant adjutant general thereby rendering the labors of that office less onerous.

Adopted.

At the suggestion of W. C. Bunts, commander, three hundred and one dollars was subscribed by individual members and pledges of delegates to meet the indebtedness of the department to Comrade E. M. Hessler for services as assistant adjutant general.

By Comrade John A. Hoffman:

Resolved, That a vote of thanks is hereby tendered posts Nos. 5 and 20, the officers and comrades of the national military home, citizens of Dayton and the proprietor of the hotel for the many kind favors extended to the delegates and comrades attending this encampment.

Adopted.

Adjourned to meet in Sandusky, Ohio, on the third Thursday of July, 1873.

WM. C. BUNTS,
Department Commander.

Official, JNO. C. ROLAND, Aide-de-camp, Acting A. A. General Department of Ohio.

THE SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION OF 1873, SANDUSKY, OHIO.

The semi-annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Ohio, convened at Put-in-Bay, Lake Erie, July 24, 1873. The encampment was called to order by the department commander. Comrade G. M. Barber, of Cleveland, Ohio.

The chairs of the senior and junion vice commanders were filled by Comrades E. M. Culver and S. E. Bishop, or posts 43 and 27. Comrade W. A. Till, of post 45, acted as officer of the day, and John A. Hoffman of post 69, as officer of guard.

After prayer by the chaplain, Comrade William Earnshaw, of post No. 5, the commander appointed the following committees:

On credentials—John C. Roland, John A. Hoffman, W. C. Seigling, S. E. Bishop and John Skinner.

On affairs of department—J. Warren Keifer, Jno. A. Chase and D. F. Giddinger.

On resolutions—E. M. Culver, Robert Martin, J. Armstrong and O. C. Wilson.

Adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock a. m., July 25, 1873.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION, JULY 25, 1873.

Pursuant to adjournment the encampment re-assembled at 9 a. m.

The report of the committee on credentials was presented: Your committee on credentials respectfully submit the following as their report:

The following posts are represented by delegates present.

Post No. 5, John Skinner, John White, Owen Welsh; No. 12, J. A. Lantz, T. D. McGillicuddy; No. 15, John A. Chase; No. 23, William C. Bunts; No. 27, S. E. Bishop; No. 43, W. C. Seigling; No. 62, J. Armstrong; No. 68, Jas. Gass; No. 69, John A. Hoffman; No. 87, C. L. Russell.

Others entitled to seats in the encampment: G. M. Barber, department commander; E. M. Culver, senior vice commander; J. Warren Keifer, past department commander; Wm. Earnshaw, chaplain; John C.

Roland, assistant adjutant general; W. A. Till, officer of day; council of administration, E. F. Brown; D. F. Giddinger and O. C. Wilson, post commanders. Delegates, 13; others, 9.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. ROLAND,
Chairman Com. on Credentials.

The commander delivered a most appropriate address which was well received by the comrades present.

ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

Comrades: Representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic:

On this occasion of our semi-annual encampment, I am happy to greet you. It is the first opportunity since you chose me your department commander to thank you for the trust thus reposed in me.

I accepted the trust with full knowledge that the future existence of the Grand Army of the Republic in Ohio depended upon the successful administration of all its departments during the current year. The Grand Army was organized immediately upon the close of the war, when there were more soldiers in the land than there are now. And when from the recency of the tragic events of the rebellion, intense interest was centered in everything relating to the army, and there was universal gratitude to the men who had endured the hardships of the war, and sympathy for those who were disabled, and for the widows and orphans of those who had fallen.

The assistance and encouragement given to it by both soldiers and citizens extended it throughout the whole country, established its posts in every city, and almost every village, and brought into its ranks a large proportion of the honorably discharged soldiers of the war.

Its objects are those dear to the heart of every true soldier. They are

1st. To strengthen and perpetuate those fraternal relations and kindly sympathies formed around the campfire, on the march and in battle.

2d. To aid one another in the battle of life, to relieve the wants of our unforunate comrades, and to see to it that the widows and orphans of those who are dead are not left to the *charities* of the world. They are not objects of charity. This country owes to them all the prosperity it enjoys, and when the disabled soldiers and widows and orphans of the war shall have been fully supported and cared for by the government, the debt will not be half paid.

3d. It is the aim of our organization to maintain true allegiance to the government and its laws, and to strengthen by all the means in our power the government of the United States, and to spread universal liberty, equal rights and equal justice to all men.

The novelty attending the establishment of a new order has now passed away and large numbers of its members have neglected to attend its meetings, failed to pay their dues and been dropped from the rolls,

and consequently many posts have been disbanded, until the number in Ohio has been reduced from 300 to 19 the number reported in good standing at the last annual encampment, and the membership from about 10,000 to 800; and there are indications that the number will be still further reduced, other causes have contributed to this reduction of membership. National headquarters by direction of the national encampment has twice, during the existence of the order, so radically changed the ritual as to require complete reorganization of the posts. These changes have proved most disastrous to the order in Ohio, as in each reorganization a large amount of its membership has been lost. Another cause of loss of membership has been the recurrence of the political contests, and the political ambition of many of its members. In some localities it has been used by ambitious and intriguing politicians as a means for the accomplishment of their purposes, and dissensions have thereby been created in its ranks, and odium brought upon the order, and some color has thereby been given to the charge that it is a political organization and controlled by politicians for their ambitious purposes.

This charge against the order is wholly untrue. Unworthy men may obtain admission to any organization, social, political or religious; they may abuse the privileges that they thus obtain, pervert the objects and aims of the organization, and prostitute it to their own ambitious purposes. No church organization in the land is freer from political bias than the Grand Army of the Republic. It is true that soldiers, other things being equal, will vote for the comrade who has stood by them in battle, and shared with them its dangers and hardships, and perhaps risked life to protect them. If they did not they would not possess the elements of character to make them good citizens or honest men, and they do it because he is fit for the position and because he is their friend, and not because he is a member of the G. A. R. Let the vile slander that it is a political organization be forever put at rest. There is not a word or thought of politics in its ritual or in its legitimate working any more than there is in the Lord's prayer, the Methodist discipline or the Presbyterian articles of faith.

To the army in the war was committed a great trust, the defense of the government against the greatest treason the world ever saw. On the manner we executed that trust depended the lives and liberties of generations then unborn. How well we performed the duty thus assigned to us history on its most brilliant pages has already recorded. Our duty in that regard is done; when we laid aside our arms and uniform we became citizens and as such entitled to all the rights and privileges of citizenship. Most of us went into the war poor and came out with less than when we entered it. Many of us crippled for life, more with impaired health—all less able to fight the battles of life than those who have not been through the hardships of war.

No man has passed through the mental or physical suffering, endured the shock and strain upon the vital energies produced by the excitement and dangers of battle, and returned to civil life with as strong a con-

stitution as he had before. Apoplexy, paralysis and heart disease are fearfully prevalent among surviving soldiers.

While the war was in progress, and the result in doubt values of property, real and personal went down to almost nothing, and when it became apparent that we should be successful prices went up at an unheard of rate. Those who remained at home had the opportunity, by purchasing at low rates, to lay the foundations of those splendid fortunes they have since realized, while the soldiers returned with empty pockets and impaired health, most of them to enter the field as laborers to obtain the means of support for their families. Is it not eminently right then that they should associate together for the accomplishment of whatever may be for their mutual advantage?

I have the most abundant faith in the future of the Grand Army. It is true it is composed of men whose places can never be filled, and when the last of the soldiers of the war of the rebellion shall have passed away it must terminate in its present form, nor do I expect that its numbers can ever be as great as they have been in the past. Those who may become members are growing yearly less and less, and the interest in the association cannot be largely increased or extended, but the love for the organization of those who now belong to it will continue while life shall last. Some changes will be made. As the members become less the posts will become fewer. But I hope before long some element will be introduced that will provide for its perpetuation. Such organizations exist in almost every civilized nation where war has been. It is but the embodiment and crystallization of the fraternal element of our nature brought out and developed by the dangers and hardships of the war.

At the close of the war of the revolution a similar organization was made by the officers of the colonial army. Washington was its first president, and continued to fill that office until his death, and it has numbered among its members many of the most distinguished men of this country. It provided for its perpetuation by admitting to its membership the descendants of its members. It originally embraced nearly all the surviving officers of the revolutionary army, and branch organizations were established in every state. But its numbers have gradually diminished until but six branch organizations now exist. Its meetings are held only once a year and on the fourth day of July. Hamilton Fish, of New York, is now the president, and it held its annual meeting and banquet at New York city on last fourth day of July. It was named the "Society of the Cincinnati," after a Roman soldier of that name, who laid down in peace the arms assumed in war only for the defense of his country.

Our society has a wider scope. It is not limited to officers, but, as it should, embraces the rank and file of the army. Its objects, too, are more practical. It has been influential in so modifying the pension laws that the disabled soldier may now get his pension without its passing through the hands of those who would rob him of a large share of it. Also, it has been influential in the establishment of homes where the

disabled soldiers are better provided for than by any other government in the world.

The department of Ohio has reason to be proud of what it has done for the support and education of the orphans of our deceased comrades. I need not recount the struggles which have resulted in the establishment of the orphans' home and its adoption by the state. These are matters in which you have borne a part.

But the work of the Grand Army is not done. These institutions are to be perpetuated and the assistance afforded to the present generation of soldiers must be continued to those of their children who need it.

I desire now to call the attention of the members and especially of post commanders to the necessity of prompt and thorough inspection of their posts. It is the only means we have of knowing their condition.

Early this year general order No. 3 was issued, directing post commanders to report to the inspector general the name in each post of a comrade suitable for post inspector. Some posts have complied with this order, but in a large number of posts no names have been furnished and of course no appointments made. I trust that in every post where this has not been done a suitable name will at once be sent to the inspector general, Comrade B. F. Miller, at Toledo, Ohio, and select the best man you have for that position. It is then the duty of the post commander to see that the inspector does his duty and that his own post is properly inspected, and I particularly enjoin upon every post commander to report to department headquarters every neglect of duty in this respect.

Lack of attendance upon the meetings of the posts is probably the most serious drawback upon the prosperity of the order. I know it is a difficult task to keep up interest in an organization in which its advantages inure mostly to the benefit of others.

The success of the post depends in a large degree upon the manner in which the officers discharge their duties. If nothing more is done at the meetings than the usual business routine, the officers reading their various parts from the ritual, the interest will very soon die out.

The first duty of the officers of a post should be to learn their several parts so that they can go through the whole work without reference to the book. This will get up a strife among the officers to see who will perform his part the best, and will add to the interest of the members. Other exercises should be introduced to give interest and variety to the meetings. Addresses, lectures, declamations, recitals, theatricals, musical soireés under the direction and auspices of the post and at its hall, should be resorted to as often as the circumstances will permit. On proper occasions invite the public, and sometimes small admission fees may be charged to the public and thereby aid to replenish your treasury.

Sometimes an address or lecture well selected, if not too long, may be read by the post commander, adjutant, or some person selected for that purpose. Short essays, embodying incidents of the war within the personal knowledge of the author should be occasionally read; also, campfires may be resorted to. After the regular business of the evening spend

the remainder of the time in relating personal experiences, anecdotes, songs or social converse.

Visiting from one post to another and participating in these exercises and interchanging anecdotes, etc., will be found exceedingly profitable. Amateur theatricals and glee clubs should be formed wherever the material can be collected.

I would omit no regular meeting. Every post should have a permanent place of meeting, and if possible own its own hall. This can be accomplished in most cases by a little good management. Get together by subscription or otherwise, money enough to make the first payment and depend on the future for the rest. Get up reunions, picnics, lectures, etc., and have small payments for admission, to raise money for future payments. Citizens will help you when they know that you have a nucleus, and that you are in earnest and will help yourselves.

I earnestly recommend to every post in this encampment at least once in each year to get up a reunion and invite your neighboring posts, your wives, daughters, and lady friend to join you. Everything of this kind that you do will add to your popularity and increase your strength, and when decoration day comes take charge of the ceremonies and make it a day to be talked of and remembered the whole year. I know some posts in this encampment where most of these suggestions are practically carried out, and I need not say that they are the most successful and staunchest posts in the whole department. Every post may become, if it is not now, a live working post. I ask the members of this encampment when you return to duty to enter upon the work with a will, and at the annual encampment in January report your success.

I commend to the careful attention of the members of this encampment the report and suggestions of the adjutant general. It shows that he has been faithful and diligent in the performance of his duties. I regret to say that while his duties make large inroads upon his time there is but little prospect of much if any pecuniary compensation for him. While I am not in favor of paying large salaries to any officer, yet they should be indemnified against loss and expense. If the posts will all promptly pay their dues the income will be sufficient after paying expense and dues to national headquarters to in a measure compensate those whose duties entitle them to compensation.

It has been my painful duty twice during the half year now past to announce the decease of the members of the department staff.

G. M. Boyd, medical director, died at San Diego, California, on Saturday, the first day of February, 1873. Although personally I had but short acquaintance with him, yet I had learned his worth as an officer and a friend. He was at the time of his election to his position on the department staff, absent on the Pacific coast, hoping to check the ravages of the disease which had fastened itself upon him too surely. His hopes were not destined to be realized, and he died among strangers. His election at our last encampment was a merited tribute for the valuable services he had previously rendered as surgeon general and as chairman of an

important financial committee in connection with the affairs of the orphans' home.

Major M. S. Gunckel, our junior vice commander, died at his home in Dayton, Ohio, on the 2d day of May, 1873. He was ill but a few days, but was conscious that his end was near from the first. His funeral obsequies were attended by post 5, at the home, and appropriate action was taken by post 20 of which he was a member. I need not recount his service in the Grand Army. His place is forever vacant. He was an earnest worker and spent his time and gave freely of his means to advance its interests. You all know his valuable services in behalf of the orphans' home—without him it might not have been a success. I suggest that a committee be appointed to prepare suitable obituaries with regard to both Medical Director Boyd and Junior Vice Commander Gunckel to report to this encampment at its annual meeting, their report to be entered at large upon its records.

This semi-annual encampment is held in the middle of the year to enable us to compare notes and lay our plans for the better success of the order during the rest of the year.

At the suggestion of the members of Post No. 43, of Sandusky, I have taken the liberty to change the place of meeting to Put-in-Bay and by way of experiment to call in connection with it for the 25th a reunion of the members of the order and invitations have been extended to all whether the posts to which they belonged are suspended or not, hoping thereby to enlist many more members in the interest of the order than could otherwise be obtained. I trust that it will prove a success that will encourage us in our good work and prove a benefit to the order.

The assistant adjutant general reported fourteen posts entitled to representation in this encampment.

The committee on affairs of the department made the following report.

Your committee on affairs of the department beg leave to report that upon examining the affairs of the department we find little to report:

The subject of benefits to comrades of the Grand Army and also of department dues have been brought to the attention of the committee, upon which subject your committee offer the following, viz.:

Resolved, That the encampment recommend to posts in the department the adoption of some plan for extending benefits to comrades in case of sickness and to families in case of death.

Resolved, That nothing has been so injurious to the prosperity of the the Grand Army of the Republic in this department as the failure to have the regular inspection of posts as required by the rules and regulations; and that it cannot be too urgently impressed upon posts and their officers to in future comply with all requirements in the matter of inspections.

Resolved, That the department encampment does not deem it expedient to reduce the per capita tax.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Warren Keifer,

Chairman of Committee on Affairs of Department.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

After a thorough examination of the books of the assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general of this department we find that at the close of the first quarter of the current year, seventeen posts reported in proper form and paid up their dues. The second quarter show fourteen posts as reported and paid dues and in three posts the membership has increased so that the number of members in good standing remains about the same as at last report.

It is believed by the assistant adjutant general that other posts will yet report which will increase the number.

The financial condition of the department we are pleased to see is much improved and shows a care in expenditure as well as a creditable effort to retrieve the department from embarrassment with debts to pay and no funds to meet them. In this respect we find the receipts for dues to have been as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Dues—1st quarter, $105.45; 2d quarter, $103.40; for blanks sold, $21.20; total, $240.05.

DISBURSEMENTS.

Dues to national headquarters—1st. quarter, $23.05; 2d quarter, $21.78; printing, postage, etc., $58.65; for blanks furnished, $50; total, $153.47. Balance on hand, $86.58.

We have been unfortunate in the loss of two department officers, Dr. G. M. Boyd, medical director, and Maj. M. S. Gunckel, junior vice department commander, both of whom were active in their efforts for the advancement of our order. In view of the vacancy of medical director thus made we suggest the name of Comrade Samuel Thorn, of post 15, of Toledo, as a suitable comrade to fill that position. While we cannot say that the number of active workers in the organization are increasing we find a goodly number of faithful, active and energetic men who have the good of the Grand Army at heart and who are willing to sacrifice much for its ultimate success. We would commend the faithful to the special care of the department commander, and ask a large degree of charity for the delinquents. Let us unite in our efforts to renew the interest in the great work and induce a thorough reorganization.

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. BROWN,
Chairman Council Administration.

The committee on resolutions, through their chairman, Comrade E. M. Culver reported the following:

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we have learned with the deepest regret the death of our junior vice commander, Major M. S. Gunckel and medical director, Dr. G. M. Boyd. We miss to-day the homely yet honest face of

Major Gunckel, whose presence at our department meetings was always certain while he lived, and who contributed as much, if not more, to the enjoyableness of our unions than any other. He was not excelled in honesty of purpose, devotion to country and to the interests of surviving soldiers, or the dear ones of the dead. Never having been blessed with children himself he seemed to possess all of a father's love and tenderness for the fatherless ones of his fallen comrades. He was only equaled in his general friendship and disposition by Comrade Boyd. They were the life of every assembly with which they were connected. Major Gunckel died at his home surrounded by his friends of almost a lifetime. Dr. Boyd, thousands of miles away, among strangers. They were sincere friends on earth, and who shall doubt that they have met in a happier land and greeted their friends and comrades gone before? Yes, we miss you, dear comrades, your seats are vacant, your kind words and cheerful voices are unheard. If departed spirits watch over those they have left behind we doubt not that those of Major Gunckel and Dr. Boyd hover near us today. Dear comrades we will meet you ere long.

Resolved, That as a tribute of respect to the memory of Comrade Gunckel the office of junior vice commander of this department for his unexpired term remain vacant and that the chair be draped in mourning until our next annual election.

Resolved, That realizing the full measure of our loss in the demise of Comrades Gunckel and Boyd the sympathies of this encampment are hereby extended to their surviving relatives.

Resolved, That the adjutant general be requested to forward a copy of the above resolutions to the families of our deceased comrades.

Resolved, That as soldiers and sailors, comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Ohio, we feel a just pride in the organization of the "Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home," and after arduous and persistent efforts in having placed that institution on a permanent foundation, if no other object should have been accomplished, that alone will justify and perpetuate its existence.

Eulogies upon the character, services in the order and efforts of Messrs. Gunckel and Boyd in behalf of the orphans' home at Xenia were pronounced by Captain Bunts of Cleveland, Chaplain Earnshaw of the Soldiers' Home, General Keifer, of Springfield, and Colonel Chase, of Toledo. The delegates visited most of the many points of interest on the island and seemingly enjoyed themselves.

Chaplain William Earnshaw, of the national military home of Dayton, O., made a statement on behalf of the committee appointed to visit the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home at Xenia, Ohio. He said that Comrade Lough, chairman of this committee had endeavored to have a meeting of the committee at the home, but had failed. Comrade Lough was not present by reason of his being transferred to the northwestern home at Milwaukee. The orphans' home is in the best possible condition and everything there is as it should be.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, of Buckley post, No. 12, of Akron, Chaplain Earnshaw was added to and made chairman of the committee on visiting the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home at Xenia, Ohio.

The committee on banner was granted further time.

Comrade E. M. Culver moved that a committee of four be appointed to prepare an obituary on the death of Comrades G. M. Boyd and M. S. Gunckel and report at the next annual encampment and that the same be included in the minutes of that encampment.

On motion the following obituary committee was appointed:

E. M. Culver, Sandusky; J. Warren Keifer, Springfield; Wh. Earnshaw, Dayton; W. C. Bunts, Cleveland.

On motion the encampment adjourned to meet at Alliance, Ohio, on the fourth Thursday of January, 1874.

G. M. Barber,
Department Commander.

Jno. C. Roland,
Assistant Adjutant General.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

ALLIANCE, OHIO, January 22, 1874.

The encampment assembled in Odd Fellows' Hall, at Alliance, Ohio, on the 22d day of January, 1874, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

The following department officers were present: G. M. Barber, department commander; J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander, Jno. C. Roland, assistant adjutant general; Theo. Voges, quartermaster general; B. F. Miller, inspector general.

The encampment was called to order by the department commander and the officers present assumed their proper positions, the commander, G. M. Barber, presiding. In conformity with resolution adopted at the semi-annual encampment and as a mark of respect for our lates junior vice commander, M. S. Gunckel, the chair of Jr. V. C. was left vacant. After the grand rounds by the officer of the day and the officer of the guard, the following committees were appointed:

On credentials.—Jno. C. Roland, assistant adjutant general; L. J. Jones, post 5; W. G. Bentley, post 10; R. Horton, post 23; A. W. Green, post 62.

On affairs of department.—J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander, D. W. Thomas, post 12; D. F. Giddinger, post 5.

On resolutions.—B. F. Miller, inspector general; J. Armstrong, post 62; G. S. Harter, post 68.

Comrade Miller moved that comrades who desire to leave before the final adjournment of the encampment, shall submit their reasons, and obtain permission of the encampment. Motion carried.

The proceedings of the last annual and semi-annual encampments were read and approved. Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The encampment assembled pursuant to adjournment. The committee on credentials reported the following delegates and post commanders present with proper credentials:

Delegates—T. H. Seaman, post 2; Jno. D. Gibson, James McDonald, Lewis J. Jones, post 5; Thomas C. Boone, post 10; D. W. Thomas, post 12; D. B. Sims, post 28; B. C. Battin, post 40; J. Armstrong, post 62; G. S. Harter, post 68.

Post commanders—R. B. Crawford, post 2; D. F. Giddinger, post 5; W. G. Bentley, post 10; T. D. McGillicuddy, post 12; R. Horton, post 23; J. H. Seymour, post 68.

The report of the committee accepted.

The department commander then made his annual report as follows:

COMRADES:—Another year in the history of the G. A. R. has passed and it has been an eventful one to this encampment. On assuming the duties of department commander one year ago I knew it was a critical period in its history, and its future existence depended on a successful administration of its affairs for the ensuing year. From causes which I fully explained in my message to the semi-annual encampment the number of posts had been rapidly diminishing. The duty of selecting faithful, loyal and competent staff officers has been successfully performed, as their several reports will fully show. A very large membership had been carried on the roll of all the posts, who for years had paid no dues, and many posts still retained their charters and rituals that for more than a year had neglected to make proper reports to the department headquarters, and had not contributed in any manner to the support of the order and were a dead weight upon the organization. This useless membership was like dead wood, it not only went to decay itself, but destroyed the vigor and vitality of all which it came in contact. It was necessary that this dead wood should be lopped off, but just how when and where the pruning knife should be applied was a delicate question and not unattended with danger to the good of the organization. In the hands of competent staff officers I think the pruning knife has been judiciously and faithfully used as the report of the adjutant general will fully show.

The successful management of the affairs of the department has been greatly impeded by disobedience to orders in neglecting to make proper inspection reports. Although assistant inspectors have been appointed for every post and post commanders earnestly urged to see that the inspections were made and the reports forwarded, only eight posts have been duly inspected and their reports forwarded to headquarters, as is shown by the report of the inspector general. This is all wrong and some means should be adopted to remedy this evil. I believe the inspector general in his able and interesting report has struck the key note to the remedy. He recommends that the adjutants of the several posts be required to make these reports and I advise the adoption of this recommendation. At the close of the year preceding the one just passed the department was in debt to the amount of $278.97. During the past year that debt has been fully paid and all the obligations of the department fully met, so that I am able to report that the department is not in debt, and that there is a small balance of money in the treasury.

It is with just pride that I here call attention to the report of the assistant national inspector general, to the national encampment, held at New Haven, May 14 and 15, 1873, of the inspection of the department of Ohio. He says: "I have inspected the department headquarters of Ohio and find the books and papers in excellent condition, and the department is in better condition than it has been in three years; and the prospect for the future is bright." Let us not be discouraged, but continue faithful in well doing.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without urging upon the post commanders to see that all orders from department and national head-

quarters are fully obeyed; that the ritual be committed to memory by all the officers of their several posts and that in the working of their posts, the regulations be strictly lived up to and spare no pains to do everything in your power to add interest and to infuse new life into your posts, and in doing this I earnestly advise you to carry no *dead wood*. Bring your membership down to live working material and your prosperity will be greatly enhanced. Every organization depends for its success upon some central idea or some end to be accomplished. Our organization has for its central ideas, fraternity, charity and loyalty—fraternity is the one idea that is most brought into requisition. We hope that no occasion will again be presented that will call for the exercise of loyalty beyond that incumbent upon every good citizen. There are many charities that call for our aid. Happily the orphan children of our deceased comrades are provided for in the home at Xenia now adopted and supported by the state, but it still needs our watchful care to see that it is not neglected or crippled by unwise legislation. Destitute persons, claiming to be and who have been soldiers, will apply to you personally and to your posts for aid. I need not say that when you have it to bestow no one who is worthy will be turned empty-handed away. But the charities of your post should be judiciously managed and it is well for you to remember that the charity you bestow either individually or in your post is voluntary, and if you bestow it upon the unworthy you will have less for those who are its proper objects. I wish to call attention to other fields of interest and usefulness for our organization. Our numbers are rapidly growing less and less. Year by year as the 30th of May brings with it the sad duty of decorating the graves of our fallen comrades, there will be more graves to decorate and year by year the number on our rolls will diminish in the same ratio—showing that our comrades are being rapidly mustered out by death. Their graves should not be left without monuments to mark their locality, or their brave deeds be forgotten. Each post should purchase a suitable lot where may be buried all who would be otherwise consigned to the potter's field and all who shall express a wish to be buried there, and a monument should be erected on which should be inscribed the name of all the members of the post and the date and cause of their death may be added to it when that event shall occur; and in addition the post should have a brief history of their members prepared, embracing their military history and made part of their permanent record for the use of the future historian. If these things are properly done a great work will be accomplished. At our semi-annual encampment it was my painful duty to announce the decease of two highly esteemed and useful members of the department staff, G. M. Boyd, medical director; and Major M. S. Gunckel,' junior vice commander. It is now my doubly painful duty to announce the death of our late department commander, Capt. W. C. Bunts. He died at Cleveland, on Friday morning, the 16th instant, and his body was deposited in Erie street cemetery, followed by a large deputation of members of the Grand Army and a large concourse of people, who, by their presence showed how much he was esteemed by those among whom he had lived

and who knew him best. He was just in the prime of manhood and had fully entered upon a career that promised to be the most brilliant. Holding the responsible position of city solicitor to the city of Cleveland, by close application to his arduous official duties his end was undoubtedly much hastened. His death was caused by disease—although not noticed and not traceable—which undoubtedly was contradicted in his army life.

A short time before his death and when too feeble to speak above a whisper—when a comrade visited him and took him by the hand he drew his down close to him and pointing to his emaciated body said, "Andersonville."

Many of you will remember the scene that transpired at the encampment at Dayton one year ago. Comrade Bunts had declined a re-election as department commander and after the election of Commander Gunckel to the chair of junior vice commander, he stepped in front of the chair of the department commander, then occupied by Commander Bunts for the last time, and said, "I am afraid you will neglect the encampment meetings now you are not commander any more," and they then and there promised each other that they would attend all the meetings of the encampment. Little did we think how soon that duty would be accomplished. At our last semi-annual encampment when in my address I announced the death of Comrade Gunckel, Comrade Bunts seemed to be much affected, and in a few pertinent remarks referred in a feeling manner to the promise he had made to Commander Gunckel, and said but for that promise he should not have been present. He was then suffering from the disease of which he died. They have gone to that better encampment beyond the dark river, where they have joined the many, very many of our comrades gone before and where we must soon join them. May our record be like theirs. I recommend that a committee of three be appointed to prepare a suitable obituary to be entered at large upon the record.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL.

To G. M. Barber, *Commanding Department Ohio, and Comrades of the Encampment.*

In making my second report, which includes the entire year that closes with this encampment, I am compelled to say that our worthy order has neither increased its numbers or extended its influence in this department. The causes that have contributed to the decrease in membership and interest in the various posts throughout the department are numerous, and it is impossible to mention them. Were it possible for me to point out each particular cause, it would only be detailing dry facts with which most of you are well acquainted.

At the encampment which convened at Dayton one year ago, there were *twenty* posts entitled to representation, there are now fourteen posts entitled to representation, showing a falling off of *six;* and with the loss of members in posts still in good standing, a loss in membership of 278 during the year.

In my report to the semi-annual encampment at Put-in-Bay, I stated that there were a number of posts from six months to two years in arrears for dues. These posts had never been called upon to surrender their charters, rituals, etc. Under date of December 12, 1873, general order No. 8 was issued from these headquarters, (by which the following posts were suspended and ordered to surrender their charters, etc.:

Gilbert post 6, Maumee City; Garfield 22, Kelloggsville; *Speakman 40, Marysville; Scott 45, Xenia; Dister 67, Dayton; Irwin 74, Greensburgh; Grant 78, Trumbull; *Sullivan 80, Cleveland; Pool 81, Welchfield; Marion 82, Waynesburgh; Dyer 85, Painesville; Thurston 86, Lebanon; George H. Thomas 88, Ravenna.

The greater number of these posts have not paid dues or been represented at encampment for more than two years. Such have not been counted in the loss of the year just closing.

The following have disbanded and surrendered their charters:

Norris post 83, Chagrin Falls; Scott 43, Xenia; Dister 67, Dayton; King 20, Dayton; Webster 21, Steubenville; Keifer 56, Delaware.

Every effort has been made to secure the rituals and rules and regulations of these suspended and disbanded posts, but not with success in every instance. One or two posts that have not been in a working condition for some time represent to the comrade instructed to procure their property, that none of these works can be found, the late officers not having them in their possession. There have been *four courts-martial* during the year. In one case the accused was acquitted, in the other three, found guilty and sentenced to be dishonorably discharged from the G. A. R. They were, viz.:

J. C. Osborn, of Geneva post 28, charged with "conduct unbecoming a soldier and a gentleman." A. E. Scott, of Forsyth post 15, charged with "conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline," Charles White, of Veteran post 5, charged with "revealing the action of his post, and speaking disrespectfully of the order and those connected with it." The proceedings in all of these cases were approved by the judge advocate and department commander and the post commander in each case charged with the execution of the sentence.

There has been received from posts for blanks, etc., $33.38. Expended for postage, blanks, printing, etc., $111.83. Balance received from quartermaster general, $78.45.

Twenty-seven dollars and eighteen cents of this amount was for blanks used by the previous administration.

General orders received from national headquarters and sent posts, 7; general orders issued from department headquarters and sent post, 9; special orders issued, 9. Letters received, 190. Letters written, 160.

At the semi-annual encampment comrade Samuel Thorn of post 15, was elected to fill the unexpired term of medical director. But as far as I have been able to ascertain he is not in good standing in his post

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*Have since paid dues in full and be reinstated.

being in arrears for dues. In view of this I have consolidated the reports of the surgeons received and will forward with my report of the fourth quarter, 1873. But five posts reported, showing twenty-five comrades who have lost an arm in battle, forty-two having lost a leg, ninety-nine having been otherwise wounded, and sixty-two injured other than in battle. It is a matter of regret that surgeons' report are not more promptly forwarded by posts.

Thinking it might prove of interest to you to know the amount expended for charity by the posts in the department, I have taken the amounts from the reports of post adjutants and find that $363.62 having been expended in that manner, relieving seventy-seven persons. It is probable that some posts have failed to make returns of money expended for charity, and undoubtedly that added, with the amount given by individual comrades, would greatly exceed that dispensed through the regular channels.

The announcement of the death of Comrade W. C. Bunts, late department commander, has been made by the commander, and I can only add my sincere regrets at the loss of so useful a member of our order.

My official connection with the department has in many respects been most pleasing to me, and I regret that I have been able to do so little for the good of our order in this department. With thanks to the commander and many comrades for their hearty co-operation and assistance, I remain, in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Your obedient servant,

JNO. C. ROLAND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

To G. M. BARBER, *Commanding Department of Ohio:*

I have the honor to submit the following statement of the finances of the department for 1873:

At the last annual encampment the department was in debt $278.97. At that encampment delegates and department officers donated, for the purpose of paying this indebtedness, $236.

RECEIPTS.

Donations	$236 00
Post dues	411 25
Total	$647 25

DISBURSEMENTS.

E. M. Hessler, late A. A. G.	$251 79
Postage, printing, etc	84 50
Dues to national headquarters, 1st quarter	23 04
Dues to national headquarters, 2d quarter	21 78

Dues to national headquarters, 3d quarter	17 01
Dues to national headquarters, 4th quarter	14 85
Blank account, balance 1872	27 18
Blank account, 1873	12 40
Assistant adjutant general	100 00
Assistant adjutant general, traveling expenses	8 00
Total	$560 55
Balance on hand	86 70

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. VOGES,
Asst. Q. M. General.

INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT.

To G. M. BARBER, *Department Commander:*

The department inspector regrets much that he is not able to submit herewith a full report of inspection of all the posts within the department, and feels that his inability to do so is not the result of any want of a proper effort by himself. Some money, besides much time and labor, has been expended by him in his efforts to have each post thoroughly inspected and reports made. No report has been received from the following named posts: — Webster, 21, Steubenville; Parrot, 62, Alliance; Buckley, 12, Akron; Crane, 77, Mogadore; Steadman, 27, Kent; Eadie, 37, Cuyahoga Falls; Geneva, 28; McPherson, 87, Cleveland; and Weller, 43, Sandusky.

The experience of the past year has taught your inspector that some different mode from that now in use for obtaining inspection reports from posts should be adopted and we would recommend to the consideration of this encampment, the adoption by it of a rule providing for inspections and reports by the adjutant or quartermaster of each post and that the reports be made either to the inspector general or the assistant adjutant general.

The department inspector cannot close his report without bearing testimony to the good feeling and uniform respect which has ever been manifested toward himself by General G. M. Barber, commanding the department and by his assistant adjutant general. The inspector would also take this occasion for returning thanks to the assistant adjutant general, J. C. Roland, for the valuable aid rendered from time to time by that officer to your inspector, in his efforts to discharge his duties.

Respectfully submitted, in F. C., and L.,

B. F. MILLER,
Department Inspector.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

To G. M. BARBER, *Department Commander, and the Annual Encampment:*

The council of administration met with department commander, A. A. G. and Q. M. G. We have examined the books of the assistant adju-

tant general and quartermaster general and find them kept in a proper manner.

The receipts of the year were as follows:

Donations	$336 00	
Dues from posts	411 25	
Total		$647 25
Disbursements	$520 69	
Balance		126 56
Out of which balance is to be paid to national headquarters dues	31 86	
A. A. G. traveling expenses	8 00	
Total		$39 86
Receipts over expenditures		86 70
This statement includes the payment in full of the debt due Comrade E. M. Hessler and an old bank account of 1872, making in all		527 18
Post dues unpaid		25 06

We are unable to say what compensation the quartermaster general should have and leave the matter to the encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Seymour,
Chairman Council of Administration.

The committee on affairs of the department were granted further time.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Your committee on resolutions would most respectfully submit the following:

1. *Resolved,* That whereas we recognize Almighty God as the author and source of every blessing, it is with feelings of great pleasure that we, the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic within and for the department of Ohio, are again permitted to assemble in this our annual encampment with the view of adopting such measures as shall best promote, it is hoped, the object had in view in the organization of our order.

2. *Resolved,* That it is with feelings of deep sorrow that this encampment learns of the death of Captain and Comrade W. C. Bunts, late the worthy and efficient commander of this department, and yet, recognizing in his loss to our order the providence of God we cheerfully submit to the dispensation of Him who "doeth all things well."

3. *Resolved,* That by the death of Captain W. C. Bunts our order has lost a warm friend, earnest supporter, and an able defender and the needy soldier, the widow and orphan, one who while he sympathized with them, was yet ever ready to share with them of his substance.

4. *Resolved*, That this encampment extends to the bereaved widow and fatherless children our deepest sympathy in this their hour of affliction.

5. *Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to the widow of our late Commander W. C. Bunts.

6. *Resolved*, That the Grand Army of the Republic in its efforts to maintain the broad principles of fraternity, charity and loyalty, and to care for the needy soldier, the widow and orphan, as is evidenced, no less by the collection and distribution of large sums of money by our order to the worthy poor within this department than by its efforts in the successful establishment and maintenance of a home at Xenia, Ohio, for the orphan children of soldiers and sailors, has proven itself eminently worthy of the sympathy and earnest support of all good men everywhere and especially of all soldiers who stood together as one man in the dark days of the republic when it fought armed rebellion and struggled to preserve the union of the states, therefore we recommend it for these its objects and urge upon all comrades the duty of laboring to maintain and strengthen it for the great work which awaits its efforts in the future.

7. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this encampment are due and hereby tendered to the comrades of Parrot post, No. 62, for their attention to the delegates here assembled and for providing so suitable a place in which to hold the sessions of this encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. Miller, *Chairman.*

The various reports were received and placed on file.

Report of committee on visiting the orphans' home called for. No member of the committee being present no report was made.

Comrade Giddinger, of post 5, had been at the home and everything there was progressing most favorably. The commander stated that the affairs of the home were being conducted in the most satisfactory manner.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANNER.

The assistant adjutant general was a member of that committee; there being no funds with which to purchase a banner, no action was taken by the committee.

Comrade Miller moved that the resolution authorizing the purchase of a banner be repealed and the committee thereby discharged. Motion carried.

The committee on obituary on Comrades G. M. Boyd and M. S. Gunckel, was continued, and upon motion the department commander was added thereto and the committee instructed to include Comrade W. C. Bunts in the obituary.

Comrade Boone moved that the compensation of the quartermaster general be referred to a committee of three. Carried. The committee

appointed by the commander, viz.: Comrades T. C. Boone, J. H. Seymour and D. F. Giddinger.

Upon motion the encampment proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

G. M. Barber, department commander; J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander; D. W. Thomas, junior vice commander; J. Armstrong, medical director; Wm. Earnshaw, chaplain; council of administration—Comrades E. F. Brown, Jas. P. Woodworth, J. H. Seymour, R. B. Crawford and T. C. Boone. Delegates to national encampment: Comrades T. C. Boone, B. F. Miller; Alternates, Comrades J. Armstrong, J. H. Seymour.

A letter was received and read from President Hartshorn of Mt. Union College, inviting the delegates and members of the encampment to visit college and museum during their stay in Alliance.

Moved by Comrade Voges that the invitation be accepted on Friday afternoon. Carried.

Moved by Comrade Voges that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at the soldiers' home, near Dayton, Ohio, on the fourth Thursday of July, 1874. Motion carried.

Adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock a. m., Friday.

SECOND DAY.

The encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

The chairman of the committee on affairs of department announced that they were ready to report, and submitted the following:

Your committee on affairs of the department beg leave to submit the following:

That although an elaborate report of the affairs, finances, etc., has been made by the proper officers, yet we desire to recall to the attention of the encampment some of the facts there stated and offer suggestions thereon.

We find on examination of the adjutant general's books that at the annual meeting in 1873 there were twenty posts in good standing with a membership of 774, while at this time there are fourteen posts with a membership of 496, showing a decrease of six posts and 278 members. While this looks decidedly unfavorable to our order, yet, financially, we are happy to state the outlook is much better, for while at the annual meeting in 1873 we were $278.97 in debt; we are now out of debt and have a balance on hand of $86.70, and we think the posts now in good standing are in much better condition than heretofore. Your committee are of the opinion that at this annual meeting some method should be adopted or some means devised by which additional interest may be created in the posts now in existence and their membership increased; also new posts established. The course to be pursued we leave to be developed by suggestions which we hope to hear offered. Your committee would further suggest that from personal observation in their own and other posts they are convinced that our loss in numbers is due

in a great measure to the loose manner in which the business affairs are conducted in the posts and to the fact that our rules and regulations are not strictly enforced, and would suggest that by compulsory orders from the department commander, by thorough inspection and such other methods as may be devised, an effort be made to bring our order in this respect, up to the standard of other societies, whose prosperity is evidently due to a strict compliance with their laws. Your committee would further suggest that special effort be made through department headquarters to have a full attendance of all the posts at the semi-annual meeting, to be held at the soldiers' home at Dayton, and an invitation be extended to all soldiers and their friends to visit the home at that time.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

J. S. CLEMMER, *Chairman.*

The report was received after a discussion of some length, which took a wide range and participated in by Comrades Clemmer, Boone, Sims, Thomas, Harter, Giddinger, Seymour, Seaman, Miller and others. The remarks contained many points and suggestions in regard to the means most likely to revive the interest in the order. Entertainments, a freer intercourse between posts, creating financial interests, succession of grades and an increase of dues and admission fees, strict enforcement of the rules and regulations and better discipline, penalties for the non-compliance with orders and an object in view in which all could become interested, were some of the suggestions made by various comrades.

Comrade Boone, of the committee on compensation of quartermaster general, reported that the compensation be for the past and present year, $30 per annum. Adopted.

Comrade Thomas moved that the reports of the department commander and the committee on affairs of the department be printed and six copies sent each post. Motion carried.

Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy moved that post adjutants be empowered to make out the inspection report of their posts, to be approved by the post commander, and forwarded to department headquarters. Motion carried.

Comrade D. W. Thomas moved that a committee of three be appointed to correspond with prominent ex-soldiers throughout the department with the object of receiving their assistance in increasing the number of posts in the department. Carried.

Comrade Miller moved that this committee have power to establish new posts and install officers. Carried.

Committee appointed by commander, viz.:—Comrades D. W. Thomas, J. S. Clemmer, L. J. Jones, and upon motion, Comrade B. F. Miller.

Moved by Comrade Thomas that the delegates to the national encampment be instructed to labor to have the three grades restored in the order, or to allow departments to return to that system if they so desire. Carried.

The encampment finally adjourned at twelve o'clock. During the afternoon a number of delegates visited Mt. Union College and Museum, and were kindly received by President Hartshorn and his assistants.

JNO. C. ROLAND,
Asst. Adjt. Gen'l.

Approved,
G. M. BARBER, *Dept. Com.*

SEMI-ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, JULY 23, 1874.

The semi-annual encampment department of Ohio, G. A. R., assembled in the chapel at soldiers' home, near Dayton, Ohio, at 11 o'clock A. M., Thursday, July 23, 1874, Comrade G. M. Barber, department commander, presiding.

The other department officers present, as follows:

Comrades Wm. Earnshaw, chaplain; John C. Roland, assistant adjutant general; Theo. Voges, assistant quartermaster general; S. C. Williamson, judge advocate; and Comrades E. F. Brown and T. C. Boon, of the council of administration.

After prayer by the chaplain the following committees were appointed by the commander:

Committee on credentials — John C. Roland, L. J. Jones, M. H. Parmelee, J. B. Storrer and R. Horton.

On affairs of department — D. F. Giddinger, S. C. Williamson and C. A. Hall.

On resolutions — Comrades Wm. Earnshaw, T. C. Boon and J. W Foley.

Adjourned to meet at 2:30 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

The report of the committee on credentials was submitted.

Your committee submit the following report: Delegates present with proper credentials — Comrades John D. Gibson, James McDonald, L. J. Jones, and Wm. Earnshaw, Veteran post No. 5; T. C. Boon, Trescott post 10; S. C. Williamson, J. B. Storrer and L. T. Parker, Buckley post 12; M. H. Parmelee, Forsythe post 15; R. Horton, Hampton post 23; J. W. Foley, Sherman post 68; Carl Gartman, Virgil post 90.

Post commanders present — D. F. Giddinger, post 5; T. D. McGillicuddy, 12; C. A. Hall, 15; and department commander, chaplain, assistant adjutant general, assistant quartermaster general, judge advocate general, and chairman of council of administration.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. C. ROLAND,
Chairman Committee.

The commander made an oral report which was favorable to the condition of the department.

The assistant adjutant general had not prepared a full report, not deeming it necessary, but stated that the department was in a most favorable condition; one new post had been established and there were prospects for one or two more. The assistant quartermaster general was not prepared to give a detailed statement of the finances at this time. About one hundred dollars had been received for dues, and about seventy-five dollars expended.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AFFAIRS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Your committee on affairs of the department beg leave to submit the following report:

We find on examination that there are now fourteen posts in this department in good standing, with a prospect of two more new ones. The number of posts and membership is about the same as reported at the annual encampment held at Alliance in January last. The financial affairs of the department we are happy to state are in excellent condition. We regret that the number of posts and the aggregate membership of the order is much smaller than they ought to be; yet all the posts now in existence are live, working posts, taking great interest in the welfare of the department, and the same can be said of the comrades who still remain. Some have deserted, many have fallen out by the wayside, and death has thinned our ranks, but those who remain are veterans and like the "Roman Legions" will maintain their organization and their line of battle intact until the last man falls. Many of the delegates present say that their posts are in better condition than for a long time previously; more interest is manifested on the part of the comrades; the drones have all been suspended for non-payment of dues or expelled for cause, and those remaining are an honor to the order.

Your committee fully indorse the suggestion of the committee appointed at the last annual encampment in regard to taking some measures for increasing the number of posts and membership in the department. To that end we would recommend that a fund be raised to defray the expenses of the department commander, inspector general, or any other comrade appointed by the department commander to visit the leading members of suspended posts, and take measures to re-establish the same, and also to establish new posts. This, however, not to conflict with the duties of the committee appointed at your last annual encampment. No report has been received from the committee appointed to correspond with prominent ex-soldiers with object of increasing the number of posts; but we would urge upon them the necessity of earnest energetic action to the end that they make a good showing at our next annual encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

D. F. GIDDINGER,
S. C. WILLIAMSON,
C. A. HALL,
Committee.

Report accepted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Your committee on resolutions beg leave to submit the following:

1st. *Resolved*, That we recognize the goodness of Almighty God in preserving our lives and permitting us to meet once more as representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Ohio.

2d. *Resolved*, That as ever, we are endeavoring to carry out the great principles of our order, fraternity, charity and loyalty, and watch carefully the best interests of the widows and orphans of our fallen comrades, and that we will not forget our obligations to the needy soldier wherever we may meet him.

3d. *Resolved*, That our hearts still beat in unison with the interests of the "Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home," not forgetting that the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Ohio, founded and placed in complete running order that noble institution.

4th. *Resolved*, That while we feel magnanimous and forgiving toward our late enemies, yet we do not feel that we can fully honor our own fallen comrades by strewing alike their graves with flowers.

5th. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this department are due and are hereby tendered to post 5, Department of Ohio, for the very generous manner in which they have provided for the entertainment of the encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. EARNSHAW,
T. C. BOON,
J. W. FOLEY,
Committee.

Moved by Comrade C. A. Hall, that the report be adopted.

Moved, by Comrade S. C. Williamson, to amend by striking out the fourth resolution.

The amendment carried and the report of the committee adopted.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

The council of administration beg leave to report that they have examined the books of the assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general and find that $124 has been received and $96.68 paid out; and believe their accounts accurate and just, and recommend that they be allowed.

E. F. BROWN,
T. C. BOON,
Council of Administration.

The report of the committee on correspondence was called for. Only one member of the committee present and no report had been prepared.

The report of the committee on obituary was called for. No report was yet prepared.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, the committee was continued and the assistant adjutant general was instructed to notify Gen. J. Warren Keifer of his connection with the obituary committee.

On motion the report of the committee on the affairs of the department was adopted.

On motion of Comrade S. C. Williamson that the department commander and assistant adjutant general be authorized to take money from the general fund, not to exceed the probable surplus, for the purpose of advancing matters referred to in the report of committee on affairs of the department. Carried.

On motion, Comrades F. E. Brown, S. C. Williamson and C. A. Hall were appointed a committee to select a place of meeting for the annual encampment. Carried.

After consultation the committee recommended Akron, Ohio, as the place of meeting, and the encampment adopted the report.

The assistant adjutant general offered the following:

Resolved, That the publication known as the *Grand Army Gazette,* published at New York City, and the *Grand Army Sentinel,* published at Milwaukee, Wis., be commended to the comrades of this department for favorable consideration and support. Carried.

Adjourned to meet in Akron, Ohio, Thursday, the 21st day of January, 1875.

G. M. Barber,
Department Commander.

Official: Jno. C. Roland, *Asst. Adjt. General.*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R., JANUARY 22, 1875.

The annual encampment department of Ohio Grand Army of the Republic assembled in hall of Buckley post, No. 12, Akron, Ohio, at 11:30 o'clock, a. m., January 21, 1875.

The encampment was called to order by the department commander Comrade G. M. Barber, of Cleveland, Ohio, and the following officers took their respective positions:

Comrades J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander, D. W. Thomas, junior vice commander, Wm. Earnshaw, chaplain, Jno. C. Roland, assistant adjutant general, Theo. Voges, quartermaster general, T. D. McGillicuddy, officer of the day.

The proceedings of the annual and semi-annual encampments were read and approved.

The following committees were appointed by the department commander.

On credentials—Comrades Jno. C. Roland, A. A. G.; L. J. Jones, post 5; J. B. Storrer, post 12; D. B. Sims, post 28; A. W. Green, post 62.

On affairs of department—Comrades J. S. Clemmer, S. V. C.; T. D. McGillicuddy, post 12; D. F. Giddinger, A. D. C.

On resolutions—Comrades William Earnshaw, chaplain; S. C. Williamson, judge advocate; C. A. Hall, post 15.

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

Report of committee on credentials—Your committee report the following delegates, post commanders and officers of the department present with proper credentials:

G. M. Barber, department commander; J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander; D. W. Thomas, junior vice commander; Wm. Earnshaw, chaplain; Jno. C. Roland, assistant adjutant general; Theo. Voges, assistant quartermaster general; S. C. Williamson, judge advocate general; D. F. Giddinger, aide-de-camp.

DELEGATES.

T. H. Seaman, post No. 2; L. J. Jones, F. C. May, J. L. Smith, Veteran post 5; C. L. Lease, post 10; J. B. Storrer, post 12; C. H. Bishop, post 15; D. B. Sims, post 28; W. O. Beebe, post 37; A. W. Green, post 62; Geo. Harter, post 68.

POST COMMANDERS.

A. McLaughlin, post No. 2; Geo. A. Blocher, post 5; T. D. McGillicuddy, post 12; C. A. Hall, post 15; J. H. Seymour, post 68; L. W. Loomis, post 37.

Total, 8 officers, 11 delegates, 6 post commanders.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. C. ROLAND,
Chairman Committee on Credentials.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER G. M. BARBER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

The year past has been an important one for the G. A. R. The affairs of the department have been administered by its officers to the entire satisfaction of the department commander. During the preceding year three department officers had died; during the last year none. There had been a slight diminution of membership, which was, however, more apparent than real. At the last annual encampment I recommended to the posts to get rid of all useless members—all non-paying ones. In surgery it is necessary to remove the dead and diseased matter to insure a healthy growth. So we had to get rid of all the dead wood. We have expelled all the drones. There were once in Ohio 300 posts and a membership of 10,000 persons. The diminution commenced about five years ago, owing to various causes known to all. But that diminution has reached bottom; the posts now in existence are in a sounder, healthier state than for some time previous. More interest is felt in their meetings. The attendance is better. Some of the Cleveland posts have been disbanded during the last year, but it was for the purpose of reorganization. A new live post has been established in Cleveland with General Barnet as post commander. Although the membership is somewhat less, the condition of the department is better than it was one year ago. One central idea was reported by your delegates to the national encampment, viz., the appointment of a department of history to perpetuate the memory and history of deceased comrades. The suggestion was unanimously adopted and incorporated into the rules and regulations. I would recommend the establishment of the office of historian in each post to write the history of deceased comrades, a copy to be furnished in each case to the department historian. I also recommend to the different posts to take measures for the establishment of post monuments on which to inscribe the names and obituaries of deceased comrades.

The new post in Cleveland was named Memorial Post. Its object was to raise money for the establishment of a monument, and also to take charge of the services of memorial day in decorating the graves of our fallen comrades.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL.

To Comrade G. M. BARBER, *commanding the department of Ohio G. A. R., and comrades of the encampment:*

I am sorry to state in this my second annual report, that there has not been that improvement in our order in this department that was probably expected by many who attended our last annual encampment. At that encampment there were *fourteen* posts in good standing. There are entitled to representation in this encampment eleven posts, with a membership of 406, a loss in posts of three and in membership of 90.

Several of the posts which constitute the main support of the department have made considerable of an effort to revive the interest in their organizations, and, while some have held their own, others have made decided improvements over their condition of one year ago; but none I believe have attained that degree of prosperity which marked the more prosperous days of the G. A. R. in Ohio. Those posts which show any improvement whatever, can undoubtedly attribute it to the interest taken in their affairs by their respective post officers. It is a settled fact, that unless competent and willing officers are elected to fill the various positions in posts, all interest will soon die out and the post cease to exist wholly from the want of tact in its management.

The present condition of the order in this department is owing to a condition of apathy, which, although general, can only be overcome by local effort. Those posts which have improved their condition during the past year have only been able to do so at the expense of much time and labor on the part of officers and leading members. * * *

Two new posts have been organized during the past year, viz.: "Virgil" post No. 90, of Newburgh, and "Memorial" post No. 1, of Cleveland. The former was organized in May and was represented at the semi-annual encampment. I have learned in an indirect manner that its meetings have been discontinued and no effort made to keep up the organization. I also understand from the same source, that some difficulty was created by poilticians (outside the post, however) but the exact nature of the trouble I am unable to state. "Memorial" post No. 1 has been organized since the first of January. This post was granted a charter without the usual fee in accordance with Section III, Article 1, Chapter 11, Rules and Regulations, Hampton post, No. 23, having closed and surrendered its charter at the last meeting in December. This post starts under the most favorable circumstances, and its name reflects its main object, viz.: "To perpetuate the memory and history of the dead."

At the last national encampment a resolution was adopted, that a committee be appointed to prepare a "memorial service." The committee as appointed by the commander-in-chief, and their labor having received his approval, a sufficient number of copies was sent to those headquarters to furnish one to each post, and copies were forwarded to the several posts in the department. The service is very appropriate and interesting,

and was successfully performed on the evening of December 31 by Veteran post, No. 5, in commemoration of the comrades who had died during the year. If posts will make it a point to occasionally perform this service, in commemoration of their deceased comrades, it will prove to be time most appropriately and interestingly spent.

In general orders No. 9 current series, four posts, viz.: Weller post 43, Sandusky; Creighton post 69, and McPherson post 87, Cleveland; Putnam post 89, Canton; were requested to turn over to these headquarters their charters and the rules and regulations, rituals, etc., in their possession. Neither of these posts were in good standing during the year, nor were they represented at the last department encampment or included in the fourteen posts then in good order.

There were received from posts for blanks during the year $29.80. Expended for postage, printing, blanks and other expenses, $99.35. The balance, $62.55, being charged to the Quartermaster General.

This does not include $5.00 yet due national headquarters for 100 copies of the new rules and regulations.

There have been issued nine general and six special orders and two circulars from these headquarters. There has been received from national headquarters seven general orders, all of which have been duly forwarded to posts.

The reports of the various post adjutants show that $262.88 was expended in charity. There can be no doubt but that the amount expended in that matter greatly exceeds this, as I am constrained to think that many reports fail to contain the amount dispensed in charity.

Many posts, as usual, deferred sending their reports until the close of the year. Among these are one or two of the best posts in the department and there is no good reason for their failure to comply with the rules in this particular.

The committee of correspondence appointed at the last annual encampment have so far as I am aware, taken no action, notwithstanding the fact, that they were notified by general order No. 6 under date of September 1st, that the semi-annual encampment requested them to make every possible effort to carry out the work for which they were appointed.

The committee on obituary of comrades Boyd, Gunckel and Bunts will, I believe, be able to make a satisfactory report, mainly through the efforts of Chaplain Earnshaw, a member of the committee.

The only suggestion of importance I have to offer is that the semi-annual encampments be abolished. The attendance is always poor and there is usually no business of interest or importance transacted. One meeting a year will, I think, be found sufficient for the transaction of all necessary business. Should occasion require the semi-annual encampment it can be convened by the department commander and council of administration.

In conclusion, my two years' experience as assistant adjutant general, has convinced me that much is required of that officer, however small the number of posts. I have left undone many things I should have done and

in some instances have done that which should have been numbered among my sins of omission.

I only regret my connection with the department in this particular; my business relations have been such that I have not been able to give all the time and attention necessary to a proper discharge of the duties of assistant adjutant general. In all other respects it has been a great pleasure to me and I shall ever gratefully remember the many manifestations of kindness and fraternal feeling exhibited by the comrades and officers of the department.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. C. ROLAND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

To G. M. BARBER, *Department Commander.*

I have the honor to submit the following statement for the year just closing:

Balance on hand	$86.69
Received from posts	239.10
Total	$326.00

DISBURSEMENTS.

Dues to National headquarters and other expenses	$294.31
Balance on hand	31.69

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. VOGES, *A. Q. M. G.*

The inspector general's report, owing to his absence, was read by Comrade C. A. Hall, of Toledo. It showed that eight posts had made reports. Most of them were in good condition.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

To GEN. G. M. BABBER, Department Commander:

The council of administration met with the assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general.

Absent members of council, E. F. Brown, J. P. Woodworth, R. B. Crawford, T. C. Boone.

We have examined the books of the assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general and find them kept in a proper and systematic manner.

The receipts of the year were as follows:

Balance on hand	$ 86.60
Received from posts	239.40
	$326.00
Disbursements	$294.31
Balance on hand	$31.69

The committee on resolutions offered the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

To the Commander and Department Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Ohio:

Your committee on resolutions would most respectfully report the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st That, as ever, we are devoutly thankful to Almighty God for the mercies bestowed upon us, and for the privilege of assembling once more at our annual encampment, where we may work for the good of our beloved order.

Resolved, 2d That, as the great object of our order is the cultivation of those fraternal feelings which ought to bind soldiers together, and a spirit of devotion to our country which ought to characterize all men, we call upon all soldiers to join us in making the Grand Army of the Republic as illustrious in the future as it had been in the past.

Resolved, 3d, That we recommend the appointment of a department historian, whose duty it shall be to collect all matters of history during the existence of this department, including a complete history of the origin, establishment and success of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, at Xenia, Ohio, and the history of deceased comrades.

Resolved, 4th, That the thanks of this department are due to General G. M. Barber for the efficiency, zeal and ability which he has displayed in conducting the affairs of this department for the last two years.

WM. EARNSHAW,
S. C. WILLIAMSON,
CECIL A. HALL,
Committee.

The committee appointed to correspond with prominent ex-soldiers with a view to stimulating an interest in the order made a verbal report which was accepted.

Report of committee on affairs of department:

Your committee report that the affairs of the department for the past year have been conducted in a judicious and economical manner and the efforts of the commander and officers should have the hearty com-

mendation of the members of this encampment; that we would recommend that each post do all in its power to increase its membership, and organize, at least, one new post in its vicinity during the coming year; that we believe the future success of the order of the G. A. R. in our department will be materially aided by the employment of a state lecturer and organizer, whose duty it shall be to visit posts that are unhealthy, or where posts have been disbanded, and labor for the building up of the order in such locality; and for that purpose we recommend the appointment of a committee of three from this encampment to solicit means, and to devise measures for that purpose.

Comrade Earnshaw, from committee on obituary of Comrades Boyd, Gunckel and Bunts, reported that they had an obituary partially prepared and gave an outline of it, which was well received and approved.

By Comrade Blocher of Post 5:

That the committee of correspondence be continued, and that post commanders be added thereto and act in connection with the committee. Adopted.

By Comrade Earnshaw:

That the semi-annual encampment be abolished. After some discussion was adopted. The encampment proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

Comrade A. C. Voris, Department Commander; J. S. Clemmer, Senior Vice Commander; D. W. Thomas, Junior Vice Commander; J. Armstrong, Medical Director; William Earnshaw, Chaplain. Council of administration, J. H. Seymour, Post No. 68, J. B. Hunt, Post No. 28, C. A. Hall, Post No. 15, Geo. A. Blocher, Post No. 5, R. B. Crawford, Post No. 2. Delegates to national encampment, Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, Post No. 12, E. T. Curtiss, Post No. 68. Alternates, Comrade T. C. Boon, Post No. 10, Comrade M. J. Enright, Post No. 15.

Xenia was selected by ballot as the place for holding the next annual encampment.

By Comrade C. A. Hall:

That the office of historian of the department be created as suggested by committee on resolutions.

Comrade Lewis J. Jones, of Post No. 5, was duly elected to fill the office of department historian.

T. D. McGillicuddy, A. W. Green and H. C. Newbert were appointed committee on state lecturer as suggested by committee on affairs of department.

On motion of Comrade Hall, it was resolved that the thanks of this encampment are due, and are hereby tendered to the comrades of Buckley Post, No. 12, for the many courtesies rendered by them during the meeting of this encampment. Adopted.

By Comrade Earnshaw:

Resolved, That we recommended that post historians be appointed with duties appertaining to the office, and also that we recommend to

the different posts to take into consideration the subject of erecting post monuments.

By Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of each post commander to see that the benefits of the soldiers' orphans' home be extended to all soldiers' orphans within their jurisdiction, entitled to its benefits. Adopted.

New national and department passwords were communicated to the delegates. After prayer by the worthy chaplain, the encampment adjourned to meet at Xenia, Ohio, in January, 1876.

G. M. BARBER,
Department Commander.

Official: JNO. C. ROLAND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL VORIS.

General Voris was one of the best known military men in this section of the State, winning his official title by active and meritorious service upon the field of battle.

He was born in Stark county in 1827 and came to Akron with his parents while he was very young. He secured his education at the Twinsburg Institute and Oberlin College, and fitted himself to practice at the bar.

He was admitted to the bar in 1853. In 1859 he was elected to the State Legislature on the Republican ticket, and while still a member of the lower house of the General Assembly enlisted as a private in the civil war. He was tendered a second lieutenant's commission with authority to recruit a regiment, which he did, taking the field as lieutenant of the Sixty-seventh O. V. I. a few months later. He served throughout the war, being promoted for bravery in action to general after the assault upon Fort Wagner, where he was severely wounded. He was wounded three times during his service, and at the close of the war his regiment was retained for garrison duty near Richmond, and General Voris was made military governor of a portion of Southern Virginia. At the close of the war he returned to his practice at the bar of Summit county and was afterward elected common pleas judge of the district.

General A. C. Voris was a charter member of Buckley Post No. 12, G. A. R. of Akron, Ohio, and was elected department commander January 22, 1875, and died July 28, 1904.

TENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

HALL SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

XENIA, OHIO, January 26, 1876.

Pursuant to general order No. 3, department of Ohio, G. A. R., series of 1875 the department encampment of Ohio, G. A. R. met at 10:30 a. m., Comrade J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander, in the chair.

The other department officers present were D. W. Thomas, J. V. C.; Wm. Earnshaw, chaplain; U. L. Marvin, assistant adjutant general and T. D. McGillicuddy, assistant quartermaster general.

Chaplain Earnshaw invoked the divine blessing.

On motion it was voted that persons should be admitted to the meetings of the encampment who were residents of localities not properly within the geographical limits of any post of our order, who at the time of the suspension of any post of our order, were members therein in good standing and who now renew the obligation taken by them upon becoming members of the order.

Under this rule Comrade Griswold, Hivling and Findlay, of Xenia, and Robinson and Keifer, of Springfield, were admitted.

On motion of Comrade C. A. Hall, of Forsythe post, a committee of three, on credentials was appointed by the chair as follows: Comrades C. A. Hall, post No. 15; D. G. Palmer, post No. 28; U. L. Marvin, post No. 12.

On motion a committee of three was appointed on the affairs of the department as follows: Comrades T. D. McGillicuddy, post No. 12; C. F. Lease, post 10; Wm. R. Clark, post No. 15.

On resolutions the following committee was appointed. Comrades Wm. Earnshaw, post No. 5; D. W. Thomas, post No. 12; J. W. Weaver, post No. 5.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last annual encampment were then read and approved.

A communication from the department commander was read as follows:

AKRON, OHIO, January 24, 1876.

MY COMRADES:—I deeply regret that I can not appear in person with you, at the encampment, but the very serious illness of my wife—who cheerfully endured the separation and anguish occasioned by my absence for nearly four dreary years of the war, makes it imperative that I should now remain at home. Her continued illness for the past year has made it impossible for me to visit the posts of the department as I otherwise would like to have done. Though not able to go from home since the last annual encampment I tried by the instrumentality of others to work

up new organizations and revive old ones, but I must confess with not very flattering results.

Comrade J. A. Joel of the *Grand Army Gazette* was invited to visit Ohio and work among the soldiers of the late army. I advanced him $20 and gave him promise of all the charter fees of all posts he might organize. By his efforts four or five new posts attempted to organize, only two of which perfected such organization. Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy of my staff spent some three weeks in the northeastern part of the state doing missionary work, relying on the charter fees for his compensation, and out of a half dozen promised organizations only two secured charters, yielding him hardly enough to pay railroad fare.

Comrade McGillicuddy also represented the department in the national encampment at Chicago, Ill., with Major J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander, only one of the delegates selected for that purpose being able to attend, they cheerfully giving their time and money for that purpose. They are certainly entitled to the gratitude of the department for the substantial interest manifested by them in the work of our order.

I also addressed circulars in large numbers to posts and among the rank and file as well as those in official position, urging active co-operation in giving new life and spirit to the G. A. R., but I must admit that a want of success followed these efforts. I exceedingly regret to be compelled to report this, but the truth should be told that you may know how to apply the remedy. I am indeed sorry that I cannot personally confer with you as to the best means to remedy these evils.

In all the efforts I have made to build up the order, I have made no expense to the department, leaving its funds to be applied as you may see fit. The order is not certainly destined to prosper unless a stronger and more persistent effort is made by the present membership than exhibited the last two or three years. Permit me to urge you to kindle anew the camp-fires of the order throughout the state. It can be done. The New England states, New York and Pennsylvania are alive to this work. A few posts in Ohio, are in effective existence as an illustration, I instance Buckley post No. 12, of Akron, which fairly shows what individual effort can do. While its organization is not large it is plucky. Through its efforts a memorial chapel, a structure of rare beauty and stability destined to go down far in the future, with its story of the devotion of the "boys in blue," is almost finished.

$42,000 is no mean sum to be raised for such a purpose by a single post, but Buckley post did it. Every community may do the same. All that is needed is organization and nerve. Organizations can only secure many of the needs of the loyal soldiers of the late war. That organization, however, must possess the instincts, aspirations and generous impulses of the men who made that mighty army. It must be voluntary and possess the recognized relations of headship and membership and have power to order, and loyalty to its objects to obey and secure co-operation. If for no other purpose, the preservation of the social relations formed in the field should keep the G. A. R. alive for long years to come. It

possesses all the essentials necessary to make organizations complete, harmonious and influential. I again urge you not to permit this grand association of the best men and motives of the age to die for want of proper effort on your part to keep the great heart of the late voluntary army throbbing, responsive to the memories and associations of the field, and warm in sympathy to the claims of the widows and orphans of deceased comrades or unmindful of the awful calamities of treason.

In retiring from office permit me to thank the officers of my staff for the cheerful discharge of their various duties, and to the order for the very flattering compliment in selecting me to the command of the department.

Yours, Very Respectfully,

A. C. Voris,
Commanding Department of Ohio.

On motion the foregoing communication was ordered to be entered on the records of the encampment.

The report of the assistant adjutant general was read and accepted.

Said report is filed with the other papers of the encampment, and is marked "A."

The assistant quartemaster general's report was read and accepted, and is on file, marked "B."

The council of administration made its report, which was accepted. Said report is on file, marked "C."

Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy made report on behalf of the committee appointed at the last annual encampment for lectures and recruiting purposes, which report was accepted, and committee discharged. Said report is on file, marked "D."

(Not having access to the files at department headquarters, and doubting very much whether such files could be found, I am unable to produce the A. B. C. and D. interesting reports.)

On motion the following named comrades were appointed a committee for the purpose of organization and recruiting for the ensuing year, viz.:

Comrades T. D. McGillicuddy, Buckley post; James M. Weaver, Veteran post; Charles Bonsell, Trescott post; C. A. Hall, Forsythe post; and J. P. Woodruff, Bowers post.

The encampment now took a recess until 1:30 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Encampment reassembled in pursuance of the adjournment.

The committee on affairs of the department made their report which was accepted. Said report is on file and marked "E."

On motion the comrade appointed as historian at the last encampment was discharged from further duty, he being reported as absent from the department on account of ill health.

The committee on resolutions made their report in the words and figures as follows:

1st. *Resolved,* That our heartfelt thanks are offered to Almighty God for the preservation of our lives and the privilege of meeting once more at our annual encampment.

2d. *Resolved,* That we hail with joy any indications of prosperity in our beloved order and that we pledge anew our best efforts to place it upon the high position its friends have ever desired it to occupy.

3d. *Resolved,* That as ever we are deeply interested in the welfare of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, and will ever remember with gratitude to the giver of every good and perfect gift, that we as an organization were permitted to create and put in running order that glorious institution.

4th. *Resolved,* That we enter the centennial year with high hopes for the maintenance of republican institutions and we thank the God of Battles that we are permitted to perform our part in making true liberty the boon of all.

5th. *Resolved,* That while we regret the absence of our beloved commander General A. C. Voris, yet we feel that in remaining by the bedside of his sick wife he is in the discharge of a higher and holier duty, and we deeply sympathize with them both in their great affliction.

6th. *Resolved,* That the members of this encampment regard it to be a solemn duty to perpetuate the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic in the state of Ohio and throughout the union, for the sake of the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers and our wounded comrades, and alive to the end that our annual memorial exercises may continue as long as possible in the future, we therefore call upon all comrades and soldiers especially in our own state to join and work together for the accomplishment of this result.

WM. EARNSHAW,
D. W. THOMAS,
J. W. WEAVER,
Committee.

The said resolutions were on motion unanimously adopted.

At this point a telegram was received sending to us greetings from the department encampment of New York, now in session at Albany, and thereupon on motion the encampment sent a reciprocal response to such greetings, and also sent a dispatch of greeting from this encampment to the encampment of Pennsylvania, now in session at Pittsburg.

On motion the encampment proceeded to the election of officers with the following results: Department commander, William Earnshaw, post No. 5; senior vice commander, J. S. Clemmer, post No. 10; junior vice commander, T. D. McGillicuddy, post No. 12; chaplain, Rev. Geo. W. Collier, post No. 15; medical director, J. W. Weaver, post No. 5; council of administration, E. F. Brown, post No. 5; Capt. C. A. Hall, post No. 15; Capt. D. W. Thomas, post No. 12; Comrade C. F. Lease, post No. 10, and Comrade J. B. Petty, post No. 28.

Delegates to national encampment, Col. H. G. Neubert, post No. 15, Col. T. C. Boone, post No. 10.

Alternates, Maj. U. L. Marvin, post No. 12; Dr. J. M. Weaver, post No. 5.

The encampment then took a recess to 6:30 o'clock P. M., and during that time visited in a body the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, at Xenia, being most courteously treated by the superintendent, Prof. Kerr, and at his invitation remained and partook of an oyster supper with him, after which we assembled in the rotunda of the home, and discoursed, to the great delight of the inmates of the home, a number of the old army songs, led by Major J. S. Clemmer.

At the conclusion of our visit a vote of thanks was given to Professor Kerr and his wife for the courtesy and hospitality manifested to us.

EVENING SESSION.

At 6:30 o'clock P. M. the encampment reconvened in the parlors of St. George hotel at Xenia. The following comrades were appointed to act as a committee to aid in the growth of the order in our department for the coming year by visiting, lecturing etc., viz.:

Comrades T. D. McGillicuddy, Buckley post; J. M. Weaver, Veteran post; Charles Bonsell, Trescott post; C. A. Hall, Forsythe post; and J. P. Woodruff, Bowers post.

On motion the per capita tax was fixed for the ensuing year at 60 cents.

On motion the commander of the department was authorized to draw on the quartermaster general for any funds needed to carry out the objects and promote the interests of the department.

On motion of T. D. McGillicuddy, of Buckley post, No. 12, Akron, Ohio, the representatives of this department in the coming national encampment, were instructed to bring before such encampment, the matter of admitting to membership in our organization the sons of those who are, or have been members of the order.

Remarks were made by Comrades J. Warren Keifer, J. S. Clemmer, T. D. McGillicuddy and others.

The unwritten work was exemplified by Comrades T. D. McGillicuddy and Geo. A. Blocher.

A unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to Comrades Geo. A. Blocher, and the officers and sentinels under him, for their services during the encampment.

A vote of thanks was also unanimously tendered to all retiring officers of the department, and then the encampment was duly closed in F., C. and L.

J. S. CLEMMER,
Senior Vice Commander.

Official: U. L. MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

NATIONAL MILITARY HOME, OHIO, February 8, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS, No 1.

I. My election to the position of commander of the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, makes it my duty to return my sincere thanks to my comrades for the confidence they have reposed in me, and to assure them that I am not insensible to the responsibility their action has imposed upon me My success will largely depend upon their earnest and continued co-operation in all proper efforts to extend and perpetuate the principles of the order. I will visit each post in the department, at least once, during the year, and will stand ready to meet all reasonable demands made upon me for the good of the order. With unyielding confidence in my comrades, and with an earnest plea for their undivided support, I hereby assume command of the department.

II. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: Senior vice commander, James S. Clemmer, Salem; junior vice commander, T. D. McGillicuddy, Akron; medical director, James M. Weaver, National Military Home; chaplain, G. W. Collier, Sandusky.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

E. F. Brown, National Military Home; C. A. Hall, Toledo; D. W. Thomas, Akron; C. F. Lease, Salem; J. P. Petty, Geneva.

DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

H. G. Neubert, Toledo; T. C. Boone, Salem.

ALTERNATES.

James M. Weaver, National Military Home; Ulysses L. Marvin, Akron.

HISTORIAN.

Lewis J. Jones, National Military Home.

III. The following comrades are announced as officers of the department staff and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Assistant adjutant general, Geo. A. Blocher; acting assistant adjutant general, John D. Gibson; assistant quartermaster general, David F. Giddinger; inspector general, Wesley Crandall, National Military Home. Judge advocate, Ulysses L. Marvin.

IV. Communications to headquarters will be forwarded through the assistant adjutant general's office.

The annual encampment, held at Xenia, Ohio, January 26th, 1876, was characterized by great enthusiasm, and a firm resolve to stand by the

good cause. The visit of the department officers and delegates to the Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home was an event never to be forgotten. Six hundred children of our heroic and fallen comrades are being educated and cared for. Their intelligence, fine physical health, and cheerful faces, inspire good hopes for their future. The proud consciousness that this noble institution was conceived, organized and sustained, for a time by the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, should inspire us to renewed efforts to watch with care the interests of the widows and orphans of those who fought with us, and heroically gave their lives for their country.

WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

Official: U. L. MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS' DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

NAT. MIL. HOME, February 22d, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 2.

The following named comrades are hereby appointed on the personal staff of the department commander, for the current year, and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

AIDES-DE-CAMP.

John C. Roland, Post No. 1, Cleveland, Ohio; Sumner T. Smith, Post No. 3, Dayton; E. S. Williams, Post No. 4, Troy; John M. Beck, Post No. 5, National Military Home; M. L. Edwards, Post No. 10, Salem; Hart A. Parker, Post No. 12, Akron; B. F. Miller, Post No. 15, Toledo; D. G. Palmer, Post No. 28, Geneva; J. H. Seymour, Post 68, Hudson. And the following as assistant inspectors of the several posts, viz:

G. M. Barber, Post No. 1, Cleveland; Charles Anderson, Post No. 3, Dayton; A. L. McKinney, Post No. 4, Troy; Richard Dunn, Post No. 5; National Military Home; C. F. Lease, Post No. 10, Salem; C. F. Lamb, Post No. 12, Akron; W. R. Clarke, Post No. 15, Toledo; J. G. Woodworth, Post No. 28, Geneva; J. W. Foley, Post No. 68, Hudson.

II. It is confidently expected that the above named officers will make the very best use of every opportunity offered of advancing the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic, and they have been selected because of their zeal in the good cause, and their well known ability to discharge the duties herein made incumbent upon them. This may best be done by visiting posts, their officers, or different headquarters, when possible.

III. The aides-de-camp will be expected to exert themselves in the interest of the department especially, and to feel that they have a responsibility resting upon them that can only be relieved by a faithful year's work for the good of the order. They can best do this by faith-

fully seconding the efforts of the commander, whom they represent in his absence.

IV. It is required that the assistant inspector will make quarterly inspection of all the posts in his district, and report promptly the result to the inspector general, Wesley Crandall, through the adjutant general's office.

They will also report what efforts, if any, are being made to extend the order, in adding recruits, or in making the post meetings interesting.

By order of

WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

GEO. A. BLOCHER, *Adjutant General.*

HEADQUARTERS' DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.
ASS'T ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

NAT. MIL. HOME, OHIO, April 26th, 1876.

CIRCULAR ORDER:

Comrades of the war for the suppression of the great rebellion:

Very many considerations make it incumbent upon us that the old ties of comradeship should not be weakened or broken by the lapse of time, negligence upon our part, or the intrigues of designing men.

Our soldier life was one eminently full of thrilling interests, and all that conduces to the cultivation of true friendship, under ordinary circumstances, was intensified by the mutual sufferings and sacrifices of grim war. None but those who participated can ever tell the sacredness that characterized the friendship of comrades in arms.

Brave men, under the shadow of death, are especially true to each other. And it is well remembered that all the time was not taken up by the stirring scenes of battle, or the story-telling around the camp-fire. There were times when visions of dear homes, and the loved ones there, were irresistible — and it was impossible then to keep back the sickening thought of dear ones at home, should death come in battle or in the hospital; and many times, in the long wearisome nights, wrapped in the same blanket, we have listened to the heart-history of those who never returned to enjoy the peace they died to secure. In response to their earnest pleas for dear ones, should we be spared to return, we vowed they should never want — and when these comrades were laid in soldiers' graves we declared, before high heaven, that this vow should be sacredly kept.

How best to meet these life-long demands, made under such solemn circumstances, is a question full of interest to every true soldier.

Many attempts have been made, and no doubt much has been done to cheer and provide for the sorrowing ones.

One organization, I may be permitted to say, has in all these years held on in one continuous and undeviating course, true to these dying requests and solemn vows. That organization is the Grand Army of the Republic. Sadly, I am compelled to admit, some who worked with us

for years, and shared in our holy triumphs, grew tired, and have left comparatively few to bear the burden. These should at once return, and stand shoulder to shoulder with us, as in the day when with our disabled and dead comrades, we carried the dear old flag to victory!

This is not a political organization. Though, at first, some few designing men joined the order, and many intriguing politicians made efforts to use it for selfish purposes, thereby doing us much harm before the people, I am free to say that its founders and true friends have ever resisted, and will resist to the end, the introduction of politics or party strife. It is ONE place where this disturbing element cannot come—and ONE sacredly dedicated to the needy soldier, and the family of the dead soldier.

We can point to a history of steady progress in the good work we have undertaken, and to the expenditure of hundred of thousands of dollars to cheer the dark path of the bereaved.

Comrades, come to the rescue. Our old enemies, reinforced by corrupt politicians, would elevate to the same standard of merit and patriotism the men who fought to ruin this country with the men who fought and died to save it.

Our three hundred thousand dead comrades call to us, out of their battlefield graves, to plead the merit of their sacrifice.

WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

GEO. A. BLOCHER,
Aissistant Adjutant General.

SEMI-ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

TOLEDO, O., August 30, 1876.

In compliance with general orders No. 4, headquarters department of Ohio, G. A. R., August 8th, 1876, convening the semi-annual encampment, the encampment met at the hall of Forsyth post No. 15, at Toledo, Ohio, August 30th, 1876, at which the following officers were present:

William Earnshaw, department commander; D. F. Giddinger, assistant quartermaster general; George A. Blocher, assistant adjutant general; J. M. Weaver, medical director; C. A. Hall and C. F. Lease, members of council of administration. The senior vice and junior vice commanders, chaplain, inspector and judge advocate general were reported absent. General order No. 4 convening the encampment was read. Proceedings of last annual encampment read and approved. On motion the following committees were appointed:

On credentials—Comrades C. A. Hall, post 15; J. M. Weaver, 5, and H. A. Parker, 12.

Affairs of the department—Comrades B. F. Miller, post 15; H. H. Frost, 5, and C. F. Lease, 10.

On resolutions—Comrades J. F. Wood, post 15; J. B. Thomas, 5, and M. H. Parmelee, 15.

After the appointment of the above committees, the department commander delivered the following address:

COMRADES:—Your votes cast at the annual encampment, held at Xenia, six months ago, conferred upon me the honor of commanding the Department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic. At that time I accepted the position, though it was one to which I had not thought of aspiring. In assuming the command I did it with many misgivings as to my ability to meet the expectations of the department encampment, namely, to build up the order, and infuse new energy into the membership. With the able assistance of the members of the staff, the first point to be gained was to get all the posts in good working order. To do this, it was necessary to require all post commanders to look well to non-paying members, and to drop from the rolls all who were indisposed to work in the interest of the order. And, secondly, to insist upon regular quarterly reports from all posts. In these particulars success has crowned our efforts, and we are able to report the department in good condition.

In addition to this, we report the organization of two posts, and an increase of one hundred and three members. Three new posts are now completing their organizations, and will soon take their place in our ranks. I stated at the time of my election, that I would visit each of the posts in the department during the year. This work has been entered upon, and will be completed—and would have been nearer completion, but for the fact that the several posts prefer that the visits be made during the fall and winter months. It is pleasurable to report that the signs are very encouraging in different sections of the department for the organization of posts. Without any disposition to inspire hopes that may not be fully realized, it may be said that the future, with the earnest help of all comrades, promises victory. Two serious difficulties meet us in our attempts to build up the order. One is a painful apathy — want of feeling — upon the part of soldiers, as to the necessity of such an organization. It is a most difficult thing to arouse them to a sense of the dangers that surely threaten the honor and glory of the loyal soldiers and sailors of the late war, as shown so unmistakably by the subtle yet mighty efforts of our enemies and their sympathizers to pull down the men who risked all to be true to their flag and country, and at the same time to elevate the men who, for four years, reeking with treason, did all in their power to dishonor the flag and subjugate and destroy the land of "the free and the home of the brave," thereby placing the loyal and the true, the traitor and the false, on equal footing in the matter of patriotism. It may be said that this is not all they propose to do—they intend that the loyal soldier shall stand aside, and make room for the traitor to enjoy the earnings of loyalty. The second difficulty is, the want of time and money. Our comrades in the war not only risked their lives, limbs, and health, but their places, or means of subsistence. Tens of thousands of them returned from the contest to find themselves supplanted by others, and no open door to gain a livelihood. The sufferings of these true heroes can

never be told. Somehow the historian has never written them—the orator has never made them his theme—nor has the poet soared to their meritorious height—and yet his endurance and bravery will, in this respect, stand side by side with his honorable services in the fiery ordeal of war. It is strongly urged then, that among the changes that are brought about from time to time for the good of our beloved order, that the one of making it easy of access, financially, be one of the first—so that every honorably discharged soldier and sailor may come to us without endangering his living or that of his family. Heretofore, and I know whereof I speak, many good comrades have been compelled to leave our ranks because the positions conferred upon them involved financial distress. Let us see that no comrade is sent out upon any mission solely at his own cost. In thus speaking I mean that there are very strong reasons for careful thought and action on this subject. And further, that no organization can succeed long that does not stand on a self-sustaining basis. By careful and safe management of the fees and dues we may add many more to our numbers, and thereby increase correspondingly our resources. In the more prosperous departments there is a continued effort to make the burdens equal and as light as possible. Our success in increasing our numbers will depend upon the use of every opportunity offered by way of urging the necessity of soldiers and sailors uniting with us—not for political purposes—but for the perpetuation of our principles, namely, Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. We may point with pride to our past record, and we may speak confidently of a promising future.

It was my privilege to attend the national encampment, in Philadelphia, in June last, and I am pleased to report that it was the best one in our history—largely attended, ably conducted, and eminently enthusiastic. The large procession, on the 3d of July, was universally acknowledged to be, in all its appointments, the best of the centennial year. Everything gave evidence of the permanency of our order, and wonderful increase in numbers in the several states where for a time we lost ground. So that after the many efforts to organize and perpetuate soldiers' and sailors' societies none of them seemed to meet the demand, save the Grand Army of the Republic. Let us then stand by our beloved order, and work as in other days for the principles so dear to our hearts. And I appeal to officers and comrades to unite in a forward movement, that is sure to be crowned with victory. I congratulate the comrades of this encampment on our upward tendency, and on the presence of familiar faces of other days.

The committee on credentials made the following report:

Your committee beg leave to report that we find the following delegates and officers present.

Grand commander, Wm. Earnshaw; adjutant general, Geo. A. Blocher; quartermaster general, D. F. Giddinger; department surgeon, Jas. M. Weaver; Veteran post, Albert Piper, Isaac B. Stevens, J. B. Thomas, Joseph Zane, Jas. Louden, M. M. Marshall, H. H. Frost, Richard Wheeler; Buckley post, H. A. Parker; Forsyth post, H. A. Brown, M. H.

Parmelee, Otho Klemm, J. T. Woods; Sherman post, G. W. Church; Bowen post, D. G. Palmer.

The members of the council of administration present reported that they had examined the books of the assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general, and found them correct, and in good condition, and complimented the officers for service. On motion a recess was taken until 2 o'clock, p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Encampment was called to order at 2:30 p. m., with Comrade George A. Blocher, assistant adjutant general, and Comrade H. A. Brown, acting officer of the day.

The committee on affairs of the department submitted the following report, which was received and adopted. It is with a great degree of satisfaction we learn that our order in this department is now in a more prosperous condition than at any time during the past four or five years, and your committee attribute this increased interest on the part of ex-soldiers to the wise and judicious policy adopted and pursued by our present worthy commander, and to the earnest and untiring labors of the assistant adjutant general, assistant quartermaster general and the inspector general.

We heartily approve of the suggestions and recommendations contained in the address of Commander Earnshaw.

Your committee would recommend:

1st. That for the present at least, posts in this department, with a view to an increase of membership, reduce the initiation fee of new recruits and the quarterly dues of members to the lowest possible sum consistent with the necessary current expenses of the post, and with the keeping on hand of a small charity fund.

2nd. That the duty be enjoined upon the quartermaster of each post of the prompt collection of dues from the members, so that the department may receive punctually the per capita tax for all comrades whose names are borne on the rolls of our order in this department, thereby furnishing the assistant adjutant general, assistant quartermaster general and inspector general not only with the necessary funds to meet the expenses of the department, but also to enable the department to send comrades into different parts of Ohio for the purpose of working up among the ex-soldiers and sailors an interest in our order, and for the purpose of organizing new posts.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. MILLER,
Chairman Committee.

Report received and adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Your committee on resolutions would most respectfully submit the following:

Resolved, That observation, continued through the recess intervening since the war, to our minds demonstrates the necessity of a continuance

of this organization, in order that the cause in which we fought—the cause of loyalty—be not overshadowed by the treason against which we fought, and our services belittled by the continued efforts of those who would make their own disloyalty respectable in the eyes of the people and the world.

Resolved, That we are gratified with the facts presented by the officers of this department in their respective reports, to the effect that an increase has been effected in our number with assurance of continuance of strength and influence.

Resolved, That the interest and energy manifested by our department commander and his staff challenges our admiration, and that in the continuance of such interest and effort, we hail the "good time coming" for our order, and the old-time boys in blue.

Resolved, That we feel it our duty to urge on every member of the G. A. R. the necessity of, on all proper occasions, making an effort to remove from the minds of our old comrades in arms any erroneous views they may have in regard to it, and especially to assure and impress upon them the fact it is in no way political in its character.

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Toledo, and especially to the members of Forsyth post, for the generous and hospitable manner in which they have received and entertained their guests on this occasion.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

J. T. Wood,
Chairman Committee.

On motion it was ordered that hereafter this department will pay all necessary expenses of any and all officers when on official duty providing in case the expenses of said officers exceed the amount of funds in the hands of the assistant quartermaster general that a tax should be levied on the several posts to defray expenses. After the announcement that Forsyth post, 15, of Toledo, tendered an invitation to the department encampment to join them around the camp fire that evening and in an excursion to Put-in-Bay island, on August 31st, which was unanimously accepted, the encampment adjourned to meet at Salem, Ohio, on the third Thursday in January, 1877.

William Earnshaw,
Dept. Com.

Geo. A. Blocher,
A. A. General.

Head'qrs. Dep't of Ohio, G. A.R.,
Adjutant General's Office,
Nat. Mil. Home, Aug. 8th, 1876.

General Orders,
No. 4.

I. The semi-annual encampment, department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, will convene at the hall of Forsyth post, No. 15, G. A. R., Toledo, Ohio, at half-past ten o'clock, August 30th, 1876.

II. Department headquarters, during the encampment, will be at the Boody House.

III. The council of administration will meet at the room of the assistant adjutant general, at the Boody House, at 9 o'clock, a. m., on the day of the meeting of the encampment.

IV. All dues, reports and credentials, should be sent to these headquarters as early as August 24th, 1876.

V. It is especially important that all members of the staff attend this meeting (See G. O., No. 2), seeing that the necessities of the several posts are understood by them,—and their presence, it is hoped, will do much to make the department encampment a complete success.

VI. The commander of Forsyth post will detail comrades to act as officer of the day, officer of the guard and guards.

Forsyth post is making ample arrangements for a good time.

The 30th will be devoted to business of the department, and the evening to a good old-fashioned "camp-fire," with all its attendant memories and pleasures. Short speeches and war stories will mingle, as in other days, with pork, beans, coffee and hard tack.

On the following day the comrades of Forsyth post will give the encampment a grand excursion to that notable and charming resort—Put-in-Bay Island—returning in time for departing trains for home.

Business of great importance will come before the encampment, and an encouraging report will be made of real success in the department during the past six months.

WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

Official:

GEO. A. BLOCHER,
Asistant Adjutant General.

THE CAMP FIRE.

In honor of the presence of the state encampment, Forsyth post gave one of its enjoyable "camp-fire" entertainments at Walbridge Hall in the evening. The Walbridge Light Guard and drum corps, and the First Ohio Independent Battery, were present in uniform. The Marine band played on the street previous to the opening of the entertainment and the drum corps played patriotic and familiar tunes during the entertainment.

After a song by the Hayes and Wheeler glee club, the exercises were opened with a speech by Col. D. F. De Woll. He said he had been so much a stranger to the organization (G. A. R.) for some time, that he had been obliged to ask what was its present aim and purpose. He was told its principal aim was charity, and to keep alive the spirit and sentiment of patriotism. With these sentiments he would ask the privilege of recording his sympathy. He was certainly as one with his audience in this purpose. They are the sentiments which enshrine all that is ennobling and what is safe, all that is elevating and promising in life. If men would enjoy life themselves, they must impart to others those sympathies and that help which make others happy. The student of history is learn-

ing more and more certainly that there is no such thing as chance. If nations have been preserved, it is because of active and intelligent patriotism. If they have progressed in all that was grand and good, it was because the citizens loved and practiced and promoted these excellencies. There is as much need of it to-day as there was in '61, and the only safety to the country is in the disposition of every man to do his duty in all his relations, socially and politically, with a high purpose, unmixed with selfishness or fear. He was glad to have been remembered. He would remember them with warm affection as comrades in the great cause in which we fought as neighbors and fellow-citizens.

After a song by the glee club, Gen. J. C. Lee was introduced to the audience, and spoke briefly and thrillingly of the career of the union army, which he said would go down in history as the grandest history of the world, he cared not by whose pen it was written. The memories of those who were soldiers in that army, they who were soldiers in that war, which was fought to preserve the government established for the people, by the people, would not perish. If, during the war, one should go to the tent occupied by the humblest soldier, and wake him and inquire, "What are you fighting for?" instantly turning his eyes to that flag he would say, "I fight for that flag which is the symbol of liberty. It is in peril, and my battle is waged to protect it." Men who fought for such motives would never be forgotten.

Maj. Thomas and Captain Giddinger, of the Dayton home, were called upon for speeches, but excused themselves.

The glee club then sang another song and Commander Earnshaw was introduced. Among other things he said: When the war closed and the soldiers were returning home, even before they had crossed the Mason and Dixon's line, every vestige of bitterness had left them, and they were prepared to extend a fraternal hand to the south. They returned to their homes the most magnanimous men that ever existed in the world, but it was not long before they found that men who could attempt to destroy a government so grand as ours were not to be trusted. As was stated by an old soldier, "when a man gets so low that he can commit treason, the moral bottom falls out of him, and he can never thereafter be trusted." The men whom the union soldiers met in the terrible conflict are still their enemies. That disposition to put down a soldier, and that disposition to lift up themselves, shows that there is still danger. But the country was safe, so long as the men who fought down the rebellion survived.

Mr. H. H. Frost of the Soldiers' home sang the "Red, White and Blue," and then Capt. H. G. Neubert was called out and made a brief speech, similar in sentiment to Commander Earnshaw's.

The audience joined in the singing of "John Brown" and then turned their attention to the sandwiches and coffee, which had been spread in profusion on tables arranged at one side of the hall.

After the boys had filled themselves up and comfortably settled for a smoke, an hour was spent in listening to stories of camp life, from different persons.

THE G. A. R. EXCURSION.

The excursion to Put-in-Bay, tendered by Forsyth post to the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, in which all the old soldiers in the city and country were invited to participate, was a fitting and pleasant wind-up of the encampment. The Waite was not crowded, but the numbers who availed themselves of the privilege was sufficient to make the affair interesting. Wolff's Marine Band furnished music for the occasion and a gun-squad of the Light Battery, which, by-the-by, is composed almost exclusively of old soldiers, provided the necessary noise and eclat for a soldiers' reunion. The steamer Eighth Ohio made an excursion also to the Islands yesterday, and by a misapprehension quite a number who had intended to join the soldiers, boarded her.

It is a matter of impossibility to describe in cold-blooded print a reunion of this sort. No word can indicate the spirit which animates old campaigners, when they get together for the avowed purpose of fighting their battles over; the tales of camp and field, of adventure, danger and fun, must needs be heard from the lips of the narrators to be appreciated in all their force. Here an enthusiastic artilleryman might be seen explaining to an equally interested knot how the artillery brigade saved the day at Chancellorsville, by neutralizing Jackson's flank movement; in another corner an ex-member of the Fourteenth Ohio told how Chickamauga was won, and how the boys fought in little squads, after Negley's division had been broken up and driven back, and how glad they were to see Steedman's division come up. Another squad was listening to a story of prison life, as related by a guest of the late confederacy at numerous southern retreats. And so on throughout the boat.

THE FORMAL EXERCISES

took place in part on the boat, and were opened, after music by the band, with a song by Mr. Frost, of Dayton—"In the Prison Cell I sit."

Very brief remarks were then made by Chaplain McCune and Major Swigart, in which they expressed their pleasure at being present, and their approval of such reunions as these. Mr. McCune said he was not one of those who believed that we should forget the war. We should not bring back things that embitter our feelings, but we should not forget that we had a war. He thought it good for the growing generation that these reunions should take place. They cultivated patriotism, and made the children of the old soldiers more familiar with the great events of history compared in the rebellion. The ranks of the Grand Army were fast thinning, and soon these reunions would become less frequent.

Major Swigart spoke eloquently of the early days of the war, when the boys were first enlisting, and of the scenes incident thereto, and then launched out into a glaring eulogism of the patriot soldier and his devotion to the cause of the Union. There was no danger, if the next generation was as true to themselves and their country as had been the soldiers of the late war.

Gov. Cox followed. He excused himself for more than returning thanks for the compliment paid him, and then getting interested, made an excellent address. It was a pleasure to him to be present at this reunion. He had had the pleasure of attending recently the reunions of several individual organizations, but had never before attended a reunion of the Grand Army. He thought these reunions were pleasant and profitable affairs, and the more so when the old soldiers brought their wives and children along. There were always pleasant as well as pathetic things. Gen. Cox then took occasion to relate several anecdotes, and among other things related circumstances attending the surrender of Johnson. He was present during the negotiations, he said, pending the capitulations, and among other officers met Gen. Hardee. The conversation he had with him, he said, would show how the war was really fought by the south. After they had compared notes of the different engagements in which they had been opposed to each other, Gen. Hardee was asked how the regular army officers had been led into the war. He said that they had went in as they had previously obeyed the laws of the government, as a matter of duty, deeming allegiance to state paramount to national fealty. Some, of course, were secessionists. He was free to admit that at the onset the southern officers were prone to think that one southern man could whip five Yankees, but a year's campaigning knocked that all out of them. They likewise became convinced after the close of the first year, that it was only a matter of how long the southern army would last before the war closed; and they were only kept in the field through the efforts of the politicians. Soldiers of the Union army were not averse to affiliating with those of the south, he said, and would extend to them a fraternal hand, and invite them to places of trust, if they are only disposed to accept the situation as it is, and considering the questions growing out of the war as settled, act accordingly.

ARRIVING AT THE ISLANDS,

the party separated for dinner, and at 2 o'clock was called together by a salute fired by the gun squad.

Brief speeches were made by Gen. J. C. Lee and Grand Commander Earnshaw.

At 3:30 the party started on its return home.

A feature of the excursion was a bit of a race between the Waite and the Eighth Ohio, both going down and returning. The latter boat left Toledo half an hour earlier than the Waite and was overtaken and passed near West Sister, but at the Club House gained the lead, and reached her dock about two minutes ahead of the Waite. On the return trip the Waite overhauled her rival near Turtle Light, and thence clear into the bay there was a neck and neck race. Now one boat would be a little ahead, then the other; but the Waite, on the whole, had the advantage. For the last four miles of the race the boats were so close together that the passengers indulged in chaffing at each other's expense. Finally the propeller gave up, slowed down, and allowed the Waite to pass her, and

as she dropped astern, the bugler of the Grand Army of the Republic bid her farewell by blowing the army "sick-call." The Waite carried but 25 to 30 pounds of steam, and it is to be presumed that the propeller carried no more. So that the passengers had all the excitement of a steamboat race, with none of its dangers. But the Chief Justice Waite beat, all the same.

WILLIAM EARNSHAW.

WILLIAM EARNSHAW.

The subject of this sketch was the third son of George and Eliza Earnshaw, and was born in Philadelphia, Pa., March 12, 1828. His parents were godly persons, members of the M. E. Church. At an early period the son joined the church of his parents. At the age of 25 he joined the Baltimore, Md., Conference and became a traveling minister.

His first charge was Warriors' Mark — a prophetic name as we now recall. His last charge was Shippensburg. While at Shippensburg, he enlisted April 16, 1861, as a volunteer in the United States military service becoming a member of the 49th Pennsylvania regiment.

On the 27th of April, 1861, he was appointed Chaplain of his regiment. He served with the Army of the Potomac being in most of the hard fought battles in Virginia. It was often said of him that he looked more of a soldier than a minister.

On the 22d day of April, 1863, he was appointed Chaplain United States Volunteers.

After the battle of Gettysburg he was ordered to the Army of the Cumberland where he served under General George H. Thomas until September, 1867. During his service with Gen. Thomas, he was made Superintendent of Cemeteries at Nashville, Fort Donelson, Corinth and others. Into these beautiful resting places he gathered the remains of 22,000 soldiers.

He was elected Chaplain of the Central Branch of the National Soldiers' Home, September 5, 1867, at Dayton, Ohio.

He served as Chaplain and Commander of the Department of Ohio, G. A. R. He was elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, June 7, 1879, and was the first to hold that position under the rank of Major General.

In 1855 Mr. Earnshaw married Miss Margaret Hutchinson.

July 17, 1885, Chaplain William Earnshaw passed to his reward and his remains were laid away in beautiful Woodland Cemetery by tender hands and loving and sorrowing hearts.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R., SALEM, OHIO, JANUARY 18, 1877.

The encampment assembled in the hall of Trescott post No. 10, Salem, Ohio, on the 18th day of January, 1877, at one o'clock, A. M.

The following department officers were present: William Earnshaw, department commander, J. S. Clemmer, senior vice commander, T. D. McGillicuddy, junior vice commander, Jno D. Gibson, assistant adjutant general, D. F. Giddinger, assistant quartermaster general.

The encampment was called to order by the department commander and the officers assumed their proper places, Commander William Earnshaw presiding. The commander made an explanation with reference to Comrade Geo. A. Blocher's (assistant adjutant general) absence and stated that just previous to his (Earnshaw) leaving home he had received the resignation of the comrade as assistant adjutant general. The resignation is as follows:

NATIONAL MILITARY HOME,

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO, January 16th, 1877.

Chaplain WILLIAM EARNSHAW, *Commander Dept. Ohio, G. A. R.*

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: — I hereby tender my resignation as assistant adjutant general of this department. My reasons for this action have been explained to you and you are at liberty to state them to the annual encampment, with the remark that those comrades who have made complaint of my indiscreet letters, are unjust and I request that each and all of them will write me and explain how I have offended. This as a favor.

Comrade Giddinger has the financial account for the year, and the property and books in my possession are at your service. I trust you may do me justice, as I know I have done everything in my power to further the interests of the order. I have been scarcely able to attend to my own affairs for some time and an imposition of extra work has exhausted me. I trust this will meet with your approval.

Fraternally,

GEORGE A. BLOCHER,
A. A. General.

Minutes of semi-annual encampment at Toledo, Ohio, on August 30th, 1876, were read and approved.

On motion the following committees were appointed:

ON CREDENTIALS.

Isaac B. Stevens, post No. 5; Jesse A. Ask, post No. 10; C. F. Lease, post No. 10.

ON AFFAIRS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

J. S. Clemmer, S. V. C., post No. 10; D. F. Giddinger, Q. M. G., post No. 5; J. B. Petty, post No. 28, Geneva.

ON RESOLUTIONS.

Thomas C. Boone, post No. 10, Salem; D. G. Palmer, post No. 28, Geneva; M. D. Townsend, post No. 9, Conneaut.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

There being but one member of the council present it was made up as follows: J. W. Weaver, post No. 5; M. D. Townsend, post No. 9; T. D. McGillicuddy, Jr. V. C., Post No. 12; J. B. Petty, post No. 28.

The department commander read his annual report.

No record of report.

Assistant Quarter Master General Comrade D. F. Giddinger, of post 5, National Home, presented his report as follows:

No record of report.

The assistant adjutant general read a statement as to the numbers in good standing in the different posts in the department during each quater of the past year.

On motion of comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, the recommendations presented by the department commander in his report were considered, and after some explanation, adopted.

On motion the encampment took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The encampment met pursuant to adjournment, comrade Earnshaw in the chair.

The committee on credentials made the following report:

Your committee on credentials ask leave to report the following named comrades as being present and duly qualified to represent their respective posts in this encampment.

R. B. Crawford, delegate, Hart Post No. 2; Isaac B. Stevens, p. c., Thomas Simmonds, delegate, Veteran post No. 5; M. D. Townsend, p. c., Custer post No. 9; C. F. Lease, p. c., J. S. Clemmer, s. v. d. c., Jesse A. Ask, alternate, Trescott post No. 10; T. D. McGillicuddy, p. c., and j. v. d. c., D. W. Thomas, delegate, Buckley post No. 12; D. G. Palmer, p. c., J. B. Petty, delegate, Bowers post No. 28.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC B. STEVENS,
Chairman Committee.

The report of committee was accepted and adopted.

The council of administration made the following report:

The council of administration having examined the books, vouchers and receipts of quartermaster general of department find them correct in every particular.

J. M. WEAVER,
Chairman.

Report received and adopted.

The following resolution was presented by Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, post No. 12, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, instruct its delegates to the national encampment G. A. R. to have the rules and regulations so changed as to admit into the order the sons of soldiers and sailors, thereby perpetuating the order.

The medical director presented his report. No record of report.

Two other committees having to report and not being then prepared, the encampment proceeded to consider the place for holding the next meeting of the department. Some discussion took place on the subject of the next place to hold the annual encampment, engaged in by Comrades D. F. Giddinger, post No. 5; J. B. Petty, post No. 28; J. M. Weaver, post No. 5, and D. W. Thomas, post No. 12. For the purpose of bringing this matter properly before the encampment, it was moved and seconded, that we hold a semi-annual encampment. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was lost.

It was then moved, seconded and carried unanimously, that the next annual encampment of the department be held in Geneva, Ohio, in January, 1878.

The encampment then proceeded to the election of officers, for the ensuing year with the following result:

Department commander, William Earnshaw, post No. 5; senior vice commander, J. S. Clemmer, post No. 10; junior vice commander, J. B. Petty, Post No. 28; medical director, Dr. J. M. Weaver, post No. 5; chaplain, N. L. Guthrie, post No. 9.

Council of administration—D. G. Palmer, post No. 28, Geneva; C. A. Hall, post No. 15, Toledo; D. W. Thomas, post No. 12, Akron; W. T. Bull, post No. 8, Kingsville; W. G. Bentley, post No. 10, Salem.

Delegates to the national encampment—Thomas C. Boone, post No. 10, Salem; Isaac B. Stevens, post No. 5, Dayton.

Alternates—M. D. Townsend, post No. 9, Conneaut; D. F. Giddinger, post No. 5, Dayton.

Historian—D. G. Palmer, post 28, Geneva; assistant historian, J. B. Petty, post No. 28, Geneva.

The committee on resolutions made the following report which was accepted and adopted:

Resolved, That in the death of two comrades during the past year, one of whom, Comrade Thomas A. Way, late First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a member of Trescott post No. 10, department of Ohio, G. A. R., who fell with the gallant Custer, we deeply deplore the sad event, and loss of those brave comrades.

Resolved, That realizing the full measure of the loss of said comrades the sympathy of this encampment is hereby extended to their surviving relatives.

Resolved, That, as soldiers and sailors of the Grand Army of the Republic of the department of Ohio, our pride still grows to our organization, inasmuch as that we were instrumental in organizing a soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home. This alone should be sufficient to perpetuate the existence of our organization.

Resolved, That we fully concur with Commander Earnshaw as to more thorough discipline in all reports from the different posts throughout the department.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks is due and is hereby tendered to the comrades of Trescott post No. 10, for the attention shown members of the encampment and for the suitable accommodations and hospitality rendered.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS C. BOONE,
Chairman Committee.

The committee on affairs of department presented the following report:

Your committee on the affairs of the department beg leave to submit the following:

Not having a full report from the assistant adjutant general upon which to base our figures and estimates, but from the report of our very efficient assistant quartermaster general, we find that we commenced the year with seven posts and a membership of 372 in good standing; at the close of this year we have raised the order to eleven posts and a membership of 480. We think the department ought to feel highly gratified with the result when we consider the very hard and pressing times, and the very busy and exciting year through which we have passed.

We feel assured that we truthfully express the sentiments and feelings of this encampment in saying that our existence and success as an order are mainly due to our very worthy and efficient department commander; his ability, earnestness and commanding influence have been and are the new life-blood of our order. We would recommend that post commanders be compelled to enforce more stringently the rules and regulations of our order. No order is or will be a success that is loose or reckless in enforcing its rules and regulations. We would call particular attention to that part of the department commander's annual address in which he speaks of the varying in numbers of membership in the quarterly reports of the various posts. Efficient quartermasters will do much to obviate all these difficulties.

We would recommend the raising of the charter fees from $10.00, the present price, to $20.00. We would further recommend that this

department should give expression to some proposition relative to the perpetuation of our order. Respectfully submitted,

J. S. CLEMMER,
Chairman of Committee.

The report was adopted unanimously.

The encampment then adjourned to meet in annual session at Geneva, O., in January, 1878.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS.

SALEM, OHIO, January 18, 1877.

H. HILLIARD, *Commanding Department of Illinois, G. A. R., Ottawa, Illinois:*

The department encampment G. A. R., now in session at Salem, Ohio, sends cordial greetings to the department of Illinois, now in session at Ottawa, Illinois.

WILLIAM EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

OTTAWA, ILL., January 18, 1877.

To WILLIAM EARNSHAW, *Commanding Department of Ohio G. A. R.*

The department of Illinois in session here return your greetings in F., C. and L.

H. HILLIARD,
Department Commander.

THE CAMPFIRE.

The evening's entertainment could not have passed off with greater success. The Grand Army Room was thrown open to the guests, and the Temperance Hall, across the hall-way, was obtained that plenty of room might be had for the better accommodation of the large number of persons invited. The hall of the Grand Army was handsomely decorated with large flags, banners, pictures of battle scenes, and towns in rebellion, through which the boys had passed, and with which were recollections they loved to talk about. In front of you, as you passed into the room, perched a large bronze eagle, not unlike the war eagle, "Old Abe." The hall was nicely furnished and carpeted, and showed considerable good taste on the part of the decorators. By half-past seven nearly all of the "expected" were on hand to witness a soldiers' campfire, and to live over again the scenes of from twelve to fifteen years ago, and hear once more

> "Of hair-breadth escapes in the imminent deadly breach;
> And of being taken by the insolent foe."

The meeting was called together by Major Clemmer in the chair. After every person was seated and quiet reigned, the major, in a few well-timed remarks, stated the object of the meeting and the programme of the evening. He portrayed the scenes of the gallant boys as they parted from their old mothers, and fathers, their sisters and sweethearts, and to leave their homes and friends to endure the hardships of a soldier's life, with the uncertainty about them of some to come back home

again well and perfect in body, others maimed for life, or worse still to be brought home a lifeless corpse. He said that those of them who had been spared to return to their homes, had met on this evening to tell over again the stories of camp life; and after music by the band, and a song, Chaplain Earnshaw, of the soldiers' home, at Dayton, would favor the audience with one of his mule stories, of which he had a large fund. This announcement of the major's drew forth considerable merriment at the chaplain's expense, and everybody was anxious to hear the chaplain relate his experience. The Salem band then favored the audience with one of their finest selections, and they played extremely well and deserve great credit for their excellent selection of pieces and the able manner in which they were played. They certainly did well and fully sustained their part of the evening's entertainment. Next followed a song, "Tenting To-night" by Major Clemmer, with all joining in the chorus. Chaplain Earnshaw then made a speech, and such a speech we never listened to before. His description of soldier life was perfect. His pictures of battle scenes were most vivid. There was no effort on his part to talk, but the language came free and without restraint and most beautiful it was. He understood his subject and was at home in it. He spoke of the hard life the soldier had to lead, and yet the enjoyment he got out of it, and of the danger connected with it; of a mother who had put seven sons under his care and in three months four of them were dead. He well remembered an incident of true love for his country, a soldier had exhibited on a field of battle. It was in the seven days' fight before Richmond, where a comrade had his left arm cut off above the elbow by a piece of a shell or solid shot. The shock had knocked him down and stunned him. After recovering from his faintness he looked around for his arm and found it lying about fifteen feet from him. He picked it up, and after looking at it, threw it up in the air and shouted at the top of his voice, "The Union Forever!" The man then tried, with the aid of the stump of his shattered arm, to load his musket, and again fight the enemy. Chaplain Earnshaw spoke also of an old gray-headed couple of about ninety years of age, who had been deserted by their sons to enter the rebel army. The handsome residence of the old couple had been burned by the rebels because of their loyalty to the Union and they were now living in a rude log hut. They had received news of the approach of the northern troops and the old man got out his old violin and standing in front of the hut with his back against the door post for support, he sawed away for dear life at the tune of Yankee Doodle. Cheer after cheer arose from the army when it arrived where the old couple were. Gen. Rosseau got down from his horse and embraced them both, and left an order that any person molesting them would be hung. The speech throughout was listened to with deep attention by the enrapt audience, and received a hearty applause. "America" was then sung by the assembly, led by a choir, after which Dr. Weaver, of the soldiers' home, made a very forcible speech in which he contrasted the soldiers who fought for their country and those who fought for the money or position it might bring them, and

of the former being among the greater number. He claimed that the battle of Chickamauga, which had gone into history as being lost by the union forces, was not lost, but rather a victory. He depicted scenes among the wounded on the battlefield after the battle was over, of the soldiers as they lay wounded in such numbers that it was hours before they were reached by medical aid and of their never uttering a word of complaint, nor murmuring because they were not reached sooner. At the close of the doctor's speech, a request was sent up for the song "Marching Through Georgia" from Major Clemmer. This, the major sang as he always does with so much feeling and enthusiasm that the audience was carried along with each word.

A call was then made for Commodore Petty, of Geneva, this state, who was facetiously introduced by the irrepressible "Irishman," as he styled himself, Mr. Gibson, of the soldiers' home, of Dayton. Mr. Petty having been introduced as a very modest (?) man, gave an example of his modesty on board a sailing vessel on Lake Erie, in which he was completely routed by the questions concerning a vacuum gauge by a young lady who was somewhat better posted than he at that time. The commodore's remarks were brim full of witticisms and received repeated bursts of laughter from the audience.

"Hash" was then announced by the chairman and the guests were instructed to form themselves in single file and as they passed from the room they would each receive a tin plate, knife and fork, tin cup and spoon. The rations were two hard tack or crackers, pork and beans, strong coffee and sugar. It was a soldier's fare and was enjoyed by the boys in blue, and others, too, from the recollections connected with it by the former and the novelty of it by the latter. After supper, the audience was called to order to listen to a dispatch in answer to the one sent in the morning:

OTTAWA, ILL., January 18, 1877.

To W. EARNSHAW, *Commander of Ohio Department:*

The department in session here returns your greeting in F., C. and L.

H. HILLIARD,
Department Commander.

Three loud and lusty cheers were then given for the department of Illinois and after music by the band, Capt. Jacob Heaton of this place addressed the meeting. On behalf of the people of Salem, he welcomed most cordially the officers of the soldiers' home, and other comrades who were with us on this occasion, and thanked the officers for the glorious work they were doing at the home for the battle-scarred veterans. He spoke of the valor of the soldier "whose pay was glory and their best reward a free country, and for it to die." He believed in these meetings; they kept alive the patriotism and fanned the flame of love for one's country, and though the soldier had returned home and had entered the avocations of a peaceful line, he had set apart one day in the year on which he strewed the graves of his dead comrades in our cemetery, sixty-four of whom lay buried there. Though not a member of the Grand

Army organization, his heart was with them in their workings. The captain made a very pleasing little speech. A call was then made for another song entitled "Echoes of the Old Camp Grounds," by Major Clemmer, which was given, and then the order was given for the breaking up of the campfire which was reluctantly complied with, though it had grown very late, almost eleven o'clock, yet it had seemed but a short time, the evening had passed so quickly and pleasantly. But at length the good nights were said, and good-byes were given between the comrades from a distance who returned to their several homes on the late train that night, and the State encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Salem, was one of the things of the past.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

NATIONAL MILITARY HOME, O., December 19, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5.

I. The annual encampment, department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, will convene at the hall of Trescott post No. 10, G. A. R., Salem, Ohio, at half-past ten o'clock, a. m., on the third Thursday of January, 1877.

II. Department headquarters during the encampment will be at the American House.

III. The council of administration will meet at the room of the assistant adjutant general, at the American House, at 9 o'clock, a. m., on the day of the meeting of the encampment.

IV. All dues, reports and credentials should be sent to these headquarters not later than the sixth day of January, 1877.

V. It is earnestly desired that post commanders be in attendance, and to see that delegates and members of the department staff appointed from their several posts are urged to attend.

VI. The commander of Trescott post will detail comrades to act as officer of the day and officer of the guard, and guards. Also, to make all arrangements for the meeting of the encampment.

VII. A morning and afternoon session for the transaction of the business of the department will be an open meeting, where speeches will be delivered, interspersed with songs and army incidents, concluding with a camp-fire,

VIII. Business of an important character will come before the encampment, and it is very necessary that all comrades who can should be present.

WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

Official:
GEO. A. BLOCHER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Official:
JNO. D. GIBSON,
Assistant Adjutant General

WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

TWELFTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

GENEVA, OHIO, January 23, 1878.

The twelfth annual encampment of the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, assembled in the hall of Bowers post No. 28 at Geneva, Ashtabula county, Ohio, on the 23d day of January, 1878, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The following department officers present:

Department commander, William Earnshaw, post No. 5; senior vice commander, J. S. Clemmer, post No. 10; junior vice commander, J. B. Petty, post No. 28; assistant adjutant general, I. B. Stevens, post No. 5; assistant quartermaster general, D. F. Giddinger, post No. 5; medical director, Dr. J. M. Weaver, post No. 5; department inspector; Jno. D. Gibson, post No. 5.

The department commander took the chair and called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the last annual encampment were read and approved.

The department commander then read his annual address, printed copies of which were distributed in the encampment among the comrades:

COMRADES: — We are met to transact the business of the twelfth annual encampment of the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic. Many changes have taken place during the years of our history as an organization. Many who worked with us have passed to their final reward. Many others have, from various causes, ceased to act with us as an order — and, until two years ago, there was a steady decrease in our membership.

It is well that we should stop to inquire into the causes of this declension in an organization so well adapted to the needs of the ex-soldiers, their comrades, their wives and children, and more especially the widows and orphans of their deceased comrades.

It is a well known fact that the department of Ohio was one of the most prosperous in the country — that it boasted of the bravest and best of our ex-volunteer soldiers in the state. In numbers, it was second to no department — and in point of enduring work, stood at the fore-front. Down through the ages will be carried the story of the inception — the unceasing toil and final completion of a home and school for the orphans of the Ohio soldiers who fell gallantly fighting down the great southern rebellion — and to-day we point with a true soldier's pride to this achievement as our enduring monument. To attempt an estimate of the good accomplished by this undertaking would, indeed, be vain. We may learn much by a careful study of the lives of those

benefited; and many times in after life we may be met by these descendants of our heroic companions in arms, who, with full hearts, will tell us of their successes in life, as a result of the training they received under the watchful care of the Grand Army of the Republic. But it does seem to me only when the great God sums up the good acts of men, and gives every man his full reward, and when on the plains of another and better existence our comrades, who parted with us on the field of strife, meet us again, with smiling faces and with words of loving approval, that we can approach a conception of the blessings we were the instruments of bestowing.

If called upon to give my opinion as to causes of the gradual reduction of our numbers I would say, that the hard struggle of the men who participated in the war to regain their places in the labors and successes of civil life found them without the time and means to continue in an organization, however dear to their hearts, demanding so much attention.

There were those, as our experience has so fully shown, who joined us from personal motives, political and otherwise. The consequent result was their disappointment, and misundertanding engendered by their action, carried many away from our order.

Possibly some felt that in our enterprises as an organization they were taxed beyond their ability to pay, and from this cause alone they reluctantly withdrew.

These three causes had much to do with the falling off in our numbers. However, after a careful and somewhat laborious search for facts on this subject, with all the reports and business papers of the department before me, I am persistently earnest in giving it as my opinion, that the real and ruining cause was the failure of many who were honored with official positions to do their full duty. The non-forwarding of reports, and the failure to discharge the business of the post in a business-like manner, and, I may say, as the rules and regulations positively require, and as an officer solemnly promises to do when he enters upon his office is the evil genius that has ever haunted and brought wreck and ruin to so many posts.

Comrades, from this hour let us see that those whom we honor with our best gifts perform the duties prescribed, or go to the rear. All orders from the national and department headquarters should be read before the posts, and the observance of said orders should be required by the post commanders. All correspondence should be done promptly. No shifting of responsibility. See, in a word, that every man performs the duties his position requires.

I may be permitted to say that in the past two years we have taken no backward step, but have steadily advanced. We report double the number of posts we had when you honored me first with the position of department commander, notwithstanding we have been compelled to drop hundreds who for years had honored us with their names, but not their help. The adjutant general, to whom I am greatly indebted for earnest

and faithful services, will give you a detailed account of the last year's work.

I would recommend the consideration of the following subjects, which I think of importance:

1st—That the members in the department make themselves more thoroughly acquainted with the rules and regulations governing our order, and that all officers be required to know their duty.

2d—That the different posts take into consideration the propriety of incorporating into said posts a mutual benefit system. This has been done in very many posts in the East, and the universal opinion is, that it is the means of great improvement to the order, and that the members are benefited thereby.

Comrades, with this report and this encampment I close my relation to you as a department commander. For the honor you have twice conferred upon me I sincerely thank you. The adjutant general, quartermaster general, inspector general, judge advocate, medical director, department chaplain, chief mustering officer, aide-de-camp, assistant inspector and post commanders, have my special thanks for their able and ready help—not forgetting my faithful lieutenants, Major Clemmer and Capt. Petty, who have filled so well the positions of senior and junior vice commanders.

My work is not done when I vacate for my successor. I will ever labor for the best interests of the Grand Army of the Republic. I have shared its best honors, and will, as before, in an humble way, bear my part of any burden that may come. Comrades, with an earnest wish and hoped that the department of Ohio may again take her position among the very best in the land we fought to save, I close.

The assistant adjutant general then read his report which was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and a vote of thanks tendered the assistant adjutant general.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

NATIONAL MILITARY HOME, January 20, 1878.

To WILLIAM EARNSHAW, *Commander Department of Ohio, G. A. R.:*

In making my annual report to you, and through you to the comrades composing the department of Ohio, there are many subjects which it seems to me would be of interest, but I will at this time mention but a few. When you were elected to a second term as commander of this department at Salem one year ago, there were only ten posts entitled to representation in the annual encampment. There have since been organized four posts of good material, which we verily believe will be an honor to and the pride of the department. This gives us at this time fourteen posts entitled to representation in this encampment. Paulus post No. 4, of Ashtabula, was organized April 10th, with twelve charter members, Giddings post No. 7, of Jefferson, was organized December

16th with twelve charter members; Shiloh post No. 6, of Ironton, was organized January 6th, 1878, with seventeen charter members; Austin post No. 11, was organized January 14th, 1878, with twelve charter members.

An application for a charter to organize a new post in Dayton is now being filled out and we are earnestly expecting it to be ready in a very short time.

Post No. 3, of Dayton, has not been working for the past year. The commander of the post has frequently requested that the charter be left in their possesion hoping that they would commence work again and be able to pay all arrearages. For this reason the surrender of the charter has never been demanded. It may be of interest to the encampment to know exactly the numerical strength of the department at the present time, in comparison with the commencement of the year, I will give it in detail: Post 1, Cleveland, first quarter, 11; at present 28; post 2. Massillon, first quarter, 13; at present, 13; post 4, Ashtabula, first quarter, —; at present 47; post 5, National Military Home, first quarter 192, at present 172; post 6, Ironton, first quarter —, at present 17; post 7, Jefferson, first quarter —, at present 12; post 8, Kingsville, first quarter, 19, at present 16; post 9, Conneaut, first quarter 27, at present 16; post 10, Salem, first quarter 42, at present 33; Post 11, Austinburg, first quarter —, at present 12; post 12, Akron, first quarter 35, at present 31; post 15, Toledo, first quarter 101, at present 100; post 28, Geneva, first quarter 25, at present 31; post 68, Hudson 13, at present 17; grand total, first quarter 478, at present 568.

It can be seen by these figures that at the close of the first quarter we had ten posts with a membership of four hundred and seventy-eight, while at the present time we have fourteen posts with a membership of five hundred and sixty-eight. There is certainly no reason why we should be discouraged, but on the other hand there is everything to encourage us to work with more zeal than heretofore for the upbuilding of our beloved order in this department; and let us each and every one work with renewed effort to advance the interests of the order until the department of Ohio shall be once more restored to the high position it once attained, viz.: second to none other on the department rolls of the Grand Army of the Republic.

There have been received through the assistant adjutant general's office during the year, for per capita tax, $310.90; for supplies, $223.42; for charters, $44.00; total received, $578.32.

Of the above amount $204.37 was received for uniforms and the expenses pertaining thereto and the amount was paid out at once to settle the bills. The remainder of the funds received was transferred to the assistant quartermaster general's account as can be seen by his report.

Orders have been drawn on the assistant quartermaster general as follows:

For postage, $8.00; for supplies, $63.03; for salaries, $130.00; for traveling expenses, $36.60; for national tax, $42.10; total, $379.73.

Of this amount $17.40 was a balance due national headquarters from the previous year.

One of the greatest annoyance with which we have had to contend during the past year has been the extreme tardiness of some of the posts in making their quarterly reports and transmitting them with the per capita tax to department headquarters. Now this should not be so. The quarterly report of the assistant adjutant general cannot be made to national headquarters without the adjutant's report and the department expenses canont be paid without the required funds to meet them with. I would recommend that post commanders give this duty their personal attention and see that their adjutants and quartermasters have their reports ready by the first meeting in the quarter.

The correspondence of the year has been considerable. I have received one hundred and forty official letters, and have written one hundred and sixty-seven. There have been received from national headquarters six general, and two special orders which have been sent to posts. Four general orders and one circular have been issued from department headquarters and sent to posts. It may be interesting to know how much money has been expended in charity during the year. By taking the reports of post adjutants I find that $202.60 have been used in that direction and forty-four persons have been relieved. Before closing this report I deem it proper to refer to the untiring exertions of posts 8, 9 and 28, in behalf of the Grand Army. The new posts in Ashtabula county are the work principally of Comrades Palmer, Petty and Townsend, assisted by comrades of the posts above mentioned, and to these comrades belong the credit of organizing three of the four new posts which have been instituted during the past year. Commander, on taking leave of the official position which I have had the honor to occupy during the year which ends with this day, permit me to return thanks to you, to the assistant quartermaster general, the inspector and medical director and also to post commanders and other comrades throughout the department for unmistakable marks of kindness and courtesy which I have at all times been the recipient of; and now wishing for our order a largely increased membership and a prosperous and happy future, this report is respectfully submitted, in F., C. and L.

ISAAC B. STEVENS,
Assistant Adjutant General.

The assistant quartermaster general then made his report as follows: I have the honor to make the following statement of the financial affairs of the department during the year 1877:

Balance on hand January 19, 1877, $37.60; received for per capita tax, $310.90; received for charters $44; received for supplies, $19.05; total $411.55. Expended as per vouchers, $370.25; balance on this date, $41.30.

D. F. GIDDINGER,
Assistant Quartermaster General.

The medical director presented his report which was received and adopted. No record of medical director's report.

The department inspector read his report as follows:

To WILLIAM EARNSHAW, *Commanding Department of Ohio, G. A. R.*

I regret very much that I am not able to submit herewith a full report of inspection of all the posts in the department. My inability to do so is not the result of any want of proper effort on my part.

No reports have been received from the following posts: Hart No. 2, Massillon; Memorial No. 1, Cleveland. I would recommend the attention of post commanders be called to the matter. I desire to tender my thanks to the department commander and his assistant adjutant general for the kind assistance they have rendered me in my efforts to discharge the duties of department inspector. Also to the assistant inspectors who have reported. I have no thanks for those who failed to do so. Respectfully submitted,

JOHN D. GIBSON,
Department Inspector.

Report received and adopted.

The historian made his report which was received and adopted. No record of the above report.

On motion of Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, of Buckley post No. 12, the department commander was instructed to send the fraternal greetings of this department to the department of New York, now in session at Utica, and the following dispatches were sent and received:

GENEVA, O., January 23, 1878.

COMRADE JAMES TANNER, *Commanding Department of New York, G. A. R.:*

Present the congratulations of the department of Ohio, now in session at Geneva, Ohio, to the glorious department of New York, now in session at Utica. WM. EARNSHAW,
Department Commander.

UTICA, N. Y., January 23, 1878.

WILLIAM EARNSHAW, *Department Commander:*

The department of New York in encampment assembled, return the cordial greetings of the department of Ohio with most fraternal wishes for future welfare. JAMES TANNER,
Department Commander.

The commander appointed committees as follows:

On Credentials—Comrades I. B. Stevens, W. T. Bull and C. F. Lease.

On Affairs of the Department—Comrades J. M. Weaver, D. G. Palmer, N. L. Guthrie and J. B. Petty.

On Resolutions—M. D. Townsend, J. H. Seymour and A. F. Sperry.

On request, the department commander made some remarks in regard to the action of the national encampment on the decoration of the

graves of confederate soldiers on memorial day. The substance of his remarks was, "We have forgiven but can never forget." As was said by Gov. Van Zandt, of Rhode Island, "Let them strew their graves with flowers, and we will strew ours."

Adjourned till 1:30 o'clock p. m.

The encampment assembled pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the commander.

The committee on credentials then reported as follows, showing the posts represented with delegates, the first named being the post commander and the second the representative.

Memorial post No. 1—J. C. Roland, representative.
Paulus post No. 4—A. F. Sperry, F. A. Pettibone.
Veteran post No. 5—Isaac B. Stevens, John D. Gibson.
Giddings post No. 7—J. H. Secheverill, G. W. Beckwith.
Webster post No. 8—C. W. Kennear, C. W. Hawkins.
Custer post No. 9—M. D. Townsend, H. Durkee.
Trescott post No. 10—William Horn, C. F. Lease.
Austin post No. 11—C. W. Kimball, Samuel McCullough.
Buckley post No. 12—T. D. McGillicuddy, D. W. Thomas.
Forsythe post No. 15—C. A. Hall, representative.
Bowers post No. 28—E. A. Gage, William Foster.
Sherman post No. 68—J. H. Seymour, E. T. Curtiss.

Signed: I. B. Stevens,
Chairman Committee.

The council of administration reported the accounts and vouchers of the assistant quartermaster general as correct in every particular.

The report was accepted and placed on file.

The committee on affairs of department made their report, and upon their report a motion was made and carried that the price of charter fee hereafter be fixed at ten instead of twenty dollars as heretofore. On motion to change the time of the annual encampment to October, after being discussed at length, was lost. A motion to amend the constitution so as to admit to membership in the G. A. R. soldiers holding discharges from governors of states only, was lost. A motion favoring the meeting of the national encampment in Ohio in 1879 was carried.

A motion to appoint a committee to confer with the independent posts at Cincinnati with a view to have them unite with the department was carried.

Comrades William Earnshaw, J. M. Weaver and Thomas C. Boone were appointed said committee.

Comrade D. G. Palmer, historian, reported that nothing had been done during the year on account of the lack of material to work on. We hoped that all comrades interested would gather up all material and reminiscences and send them to the historian.

The committee on resolutions then presented their report which was adopted as follows:

1st. *Resolved,* That the Grand Army of the Republic is an organization of noble purposes, capable of great good; that it ought to grow until it includes every honorably discharged union soldier and that we will exert our best efforts to that end.

2d. *Resolved,* That we heartily acknowledge the earnest and faithful labors of Department Commander William Earnshaw and his assistants, rejoicing that they have met a good success.

3d. *Resolved,* That our delegates to the national encampment be instructed to duly favor the proposed method of perpetuating our order by the admission of sons of comrades.

4th. *Resolved,* That our cordial thanks be tendered to our comrades of Bowers post No. 28, and through them to the citizens of Geneva, for their generous hospitality past, present and expected.

M. D. Townsend,
Chairman of Committee.

It now being time for the election of officers for the ensuing year the following were elected by acclamation.

Department commander, Prof. N. L. Guthrie, post No. 9, Conneaut; senior vice commander, James H. Seymour, post No. 68, Hudson; junior vice commander, D. F. Giddinger, post No. 5, Dayton; medical director, Dr. S. S. Burrows, post No. 28, Geneva; chaplain, Rev. Thomas Powell, post No. 28, Geneva.

Council of Administration—Comrades C. A. Hall, post No. 15, Toledo; C. F. Lease, post No. 10, Salem; D. G. Palmer, post No. 28, Geneva; T. D. McGillicuddy, post No. 12, Akron; M. D. Townsend, post No. 9, Conneaut.

Delegates to National Encampment—Comrades A. F. Sperry, post No. 4, Ashtabula; J. M. Weaver, post No. 5, Dayton; alternates—Isaac B. Stevens, post No. 5, Dayton; M. J. Enright, post No. 15, Toledo. Historian, D. G. Palmer, post No. 28, Geneva; assistant historian, William Castle, post No. 28, Geneva.

A committee was appointed consisting of the delegates to national encampment to escort the newly elected officers to their respective stations.

On motion it was agreed that when we adjourn it be to meet in next annual session at Xenia, Ohio. Carried, and the encampment adjourned accordingly.

Wm. Earnshaw,
Department Commander.

Official: Isaac B. Stevens,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

CONNEAUT, OHIO, February 12, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1

I. Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, I herewith take command of the department of Ohio. It is with no ordinary feeling that I assume the chief directive power of this army of ex-soldiers. While my assistants will aid me very greatly yet much must depend upon the energy, activity and personal supervision of the commander. My election was wholly unsought and it is the more imperative upon me to render my unfeigned thanks, for this expression of confidence. Comrades, you have given me undeserved honors; in return, my service is yours, and, I trust, that at the close of the year you may not regret your choice. Once Ohio stood in the front rank of Grand Army work. Her history during the war justified her in taking that place in time of peace. Comrades, let us see if this year cannot accomplish much toward restoring Ohio to her former prestige. The order went steadily forward under the control of Commander Earnshaw. His noble efforts shall inspire me to enlarged toil, for the continuous growth of our beloved order. While a noble band of faithful comrades who will always rally around me, the commander is certain of success. Geographically our state is midway between the east and the west. Bold comrades, let us command the center of the great battle line, and ever keep the flag proudly floating in the face of the enemy of loyalty.

II. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

Senior vice commander—J. H. Seymour.
Junior vice commander—D. F. Giddinger, National Military Home.
Medical director—S. S. Burrows, Geneva.
Chaplain—Rev. Thomas Powell, Ashtabula.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

C. A. Hall, Toledo; C. F. Lease, Salem; D. G. Palmer, Geneva; T. D. McGillicuddy, Akron; M. D. Townsend, Conneaut.

DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

A. F. Sperry, Ashtabula; James M. Weaver, National Military Home.

ALTERNATES.

Isaac B. Stevens, National Military Home; M. J. Enright.

HISTORIAN.

D. G. Palmer, Geneva.

ASSISTANT HISTORIAN.

Wm. Castle, Geneva.

III. The following comrades are appointed as officers of the department staff:

Assistant adjutant general—M. D. Townsend, Conneaut.

Assistant quartermaster general—Albert Durkee, Conneaut.

Inspector—W. T. Bull, Kingsville.

Judge-Advocate—T. S. Young, Jefferson.

IV. The headquarters of the department of Ohio are hereby changed from the National Military Home to Conneaut, Ohio.

V. All communications to these headquarters must be forwarded through the office of the assistant adjutant general.

VI. Post commanders will, at the earliest moment, send to headquarters the names of two faithful comrades; one to act as assistant inspector, and the other as aide-de-camp.

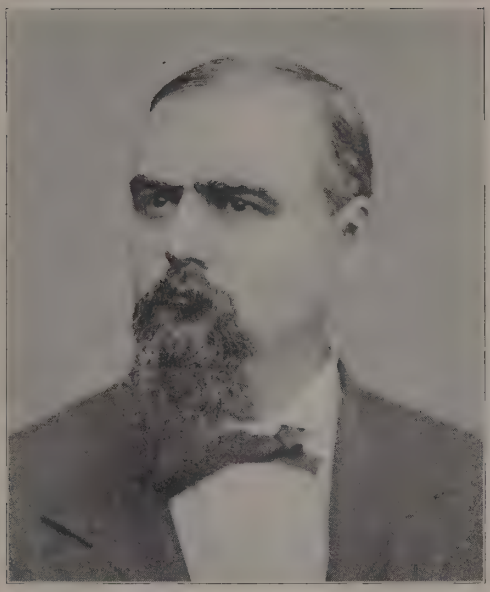
VII. Post commanders will require each comrade to write out an account of his army life. Let these historical sketches contain the incidents which never get into our ordinary histories. Let them be put on file, and a copy sent to the department historian.

VIII. Let action be taken early in regard to decoration day. Secure orators and make the exercises as pleasant as possible. It will all aid in the development of our order.

IX. Let any comrade feel free to correspond with the commander in any matter pertaining to the good of the department. Especially is the commander desirous to have opinions expressed as to the insurance feature of the order, and in regard to places where new posts may be established. Summing it all up, comrades, let this be a year of hard work by every one, and the prosperity of our order is certain. The commander will not say go, but he is anxious to lead and work out the way.

N. L. GUTHRIE,
Department Commander.

M. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.



JAMES H. SEYMOUR.

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, G. A. R. OF OHIO.

AKRON, OHIO, June 28, 1904.—Captain J. H. Seymour, one of Akron's best known business men, died at his home last night of Bright's disease, after a long illness. Captain Seymour was one of the best known charity workers in this section of the State, and had occupied all of the important offices of the Union Charity Association of this city.

He was treasurer of Summit County two terms, having been elected on the Republican ticket. He was one of the first Summit County men to enlist in the war of the Rebellion. In 1861 he was given a commission in the National Guard by Goevrnor Brough, and later was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain. He was then detailed to quartermaster duty in Mississippi, and later was clerk of transportation on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

He was 61 years of age and leaves a widow and four children. Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon, and the address will be delivered by Judge N. D. Tibbals, who was one of Captain Seymour's comrades in the war.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R., HELD AT XENIA, OHIO.

XENIA, OHIO, January 22, 1879.

The thirteenth annual encampment of the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, assembled in the hall of St. George Hotel at Xenia, Greene county, Ohio, on the 22d day of January, 1879.

The following officers of the department were present:

Department commander, J. H. Seymour, post No. 68; senior vice commander, D. F. Giddinger, post No. 5; junior vice commander (appointed pro tem), J. W. White, post No. 15; assistant adjutant general, M. D. Townsend, post No. 9; assistant quartermaster general, A. Durkee, post No. 9; inspector general, W. T. Bull, post No. 8; chaplain appointed pro tem., Wm. Earnshaw, post No. 5.

The department commander took the chair and called the encampment to order and Chaplain William Earnshaw led in prayer. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

Department Commander James H. Seymour then read his annual address:

COMMANDER SEYMOUR'S ADDRESS.

XENIA, January 22, 1879.

COMRADES:—Commander Nathan Guthrie having moved from this department to Michigan during the 4th quarter, it devolved upon me to take command of this department by reason of being senior vice commander. I immediately went to Conneaut, Dec. 13, and had an interview with the department officers, with a view of determining how I best could serve the order during my short term of office.

Headquarters at Conneaut, my home at Hudson, I considered it wise to leave headquarters where they were, and finding the affairs of the department in the hands of competent officers, issued order No. 5, that they so remain. Said elective and appointed officers will present at this encampment their reports in detail.

My official intercourse with department officers, post commander and comrades (although limited) has been pleasant and satisfactory.

Our meeting is decidedly a business one; we are to look over the work of the past year, and as faithful representatives of the department, to consider and advise what shall be done in the coming year.

The objects of our association are such as should commend them to every soldier that fought for the flag, and to every loyal citizen. There is no good reason why the department of Ohio should not take her natural place—the front—in this order. Why not in Grand Army as well as other matters. I want to live to see such a mustering of members of this

order, within this department, as took place at Boston, Mass., at the dedication of the soldiers' monument, September 17, 1877 (Antietam Day), when post after post marched by, each clad in bright, new uniforms, or again as was seen at Philadelphia, and in commemoration of the battle of Germantown where upwards of 3,000 veterans marched along, members of the Grand Army.

Such scenes as these can be witnessed in this department if we are united and energetic.

It is very gratifying to hear, and to see the interest in Memorial day, both on the part of comrades and citizens; it is on the increase.

While we thus yearly strew the flowers, our hearts, by the very act, are drawn towards each other, and it has the tendency to kindle anew the flame of true patriotism. Loyalty to our government and charity toward all. Fourteen years and more the Great Commander has been calling the roll, and each day there is added many veterans to the three hundred thousand that have gone before.

The Grand Army was born in the state of Illinois early in 1866. This department January, '67. Ohio for a while outnumbered any of the eastern departments; but not so now, the department of Pennsylvania had over 1,200 increase during the third quarter, 1878.

A post of the Grand Army that has nothing to do, is like an indivi-ual with nothing to do, and soon gets demoralized.

Post commanders, see that your post has something to do. Do not do the business all one year and nothing the next; but constantly plan. and devise your own interest in the order, but by so doing you will create public interest in the order.

Posts should visit each other by delegations, or otherwise. I think there should be some officer chosen under some title, whose business it should be to go about the departments, organizing new posts; instructing them, looking after old posts, in fact, stirring us all up.

Officers of a department or posts should be chosen on their ability, fitness and zeal to fill the office chosen, for once chosen they should do something for the order.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all." It is not our aim as an order to keep alive, to foster ill feelings toward those who were our enemies on the battle field; "but we cannot and we ought not to allow the memory of those by whom these results have been achieved, to sink into indifference and oblivion. Justice to their cause, gratitude for their services demand that we, at least, claim for them the place to which they are rightfully entitled among the heroes and martyrs of liberty." This department will advance in every direction just in proportion to the earnest and faithful work performed by department and post officers.

Soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home—as we visit this home, let us remember that this noble institution stands as a grand endearing monument to the wisdom, perseverance and liberality of the early members of the Grand Army of Ohio.

This county of Greene, this city of Xenia, have both done their full share in the past, not only in aiding to establish this home; but the county of Greene is noted for its patriotism, for the very large number that enlisted from it and for its kindly and generous hospitality to passing troops. Therefore it is a fit county and city, to locate so noble and beneficial an institution.

Members of the Grand Army, as we look on these comfortable cottages, filled with bright and happy faces, guarded and cared for by this great state, we silently remember the dead and we can say, "we have kept our promises faithfully."

In conclusion, let every man do his duty. Officers, commanders and comrades, let me thank you all for your kindness towards me. I remain yours in Faith, Charity and Loyalty.

J. H. SEYMOUR,
Department Commander.

The assistant adjutant general then read his report, which was accepted and ordered spread upon the minutes:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

CONNEAUT, O., January 20, 1878.

To J. H. SEYMOUR, *Commander Department of Ohio, G. A. R*

COMRADE:—I have the honor to present the following report of the workings of the order of the G. A. R. in this department since my appointment one year ago. At the beginning of the year, our department was composed of fourteen posts with a total membership of 568. Of this number Hart post No. 2, at Massillon, with 13 members, has surrendered its charter, leaving thirteen of the old posts still on the list, and we have not been able to get any report from Shiloh post during the year. They have, however, never proposed surrendering their charter, and we still hope to receive their report in full.

We have now on our list seventeen posts with members in good standing, as follows:

Memorial post No. 1, Cleveland, 11; Paulus post No. 4, Ashtabula, 41; Veteran post No. 5, Nat. Military Home, 162; Shiloh post No. 6, Ironton, 17; Giddings post No. 7, Jefferson, 42; Webster post No. 8, Kingsville, 10; Custer post No. 9, Conneaut, 32; Trescott post No. 10, Salem, 34; Austin post, No. 11, Austinburg, 22; Buckley post No. 12, Akron, 22; Geo. H. Thomas post No. 13, Cincinnati, 38; Ford post No. 14, E. Toledo, 26; Forsythe post No. 15, Toledo, 151; McPherson post No. 16, Niles, 35; Dyer post No. 17, Painesville, 22; Bowers post No. 28, Geneva, 32; Sherman post No. 68, Hudson, 17. Total 714.

Geo. H. Thomas post of Cincinnati, was organized July, 1878, with 36 charter members; Ford post No. 14, East Toledo, was organized August, 1878, with 11 charter members; Dyer post No. 17, at Painesville,

was organized January 20, 1879, with 22 charter members; McPherson post No. 16, at Niles, was organized December 25, 1878, with 35 charter members.

In addition to these posts already organized, there is a prospect of having posts established at Warren, Martin's Ferry, Mentor and Dayton.

It can be seen from the figures given that we have, during the year, gained four posts and increased our membership from 568 to 714. We feel that there is no reason why we should be discouraged, but on the contrary, we have reason to believe the day will soon come when we shall rank favorably with our sister states, who with well organized departments, are now taking the lead in our noble order.

And now let us all labor with our might for the accomplishment of this object, that our glorious state may soon stand second to none on the roll of the Grand Army of the Republic. There has been received through the assistant adjutant general's office during the year as follows:

For per capita tax	$361 60
Supplies	252 12
Charter	15 95
Total	$629 67

Of the above amount $180.69 has been paid for supplies, etc., and the balance has been transferred to the assistant quartermaster general, as can be seen from his receipt. Orders have been drawn on the assistant quartermaster general as follows:

For postage	$14 99
Supplies	108 71
Traveling expenses	170 82
National tax	41 16
Salaries	101 14
Total	$441 82

I would call the attention of the members of the encampment to the importance of promptness on the part of post commanders in having the quarterly reports of their respective posts forwarded with the per capita tax to department headquarters immediately after the close of each quarter.

It will be easily seen that the assistant adjutant general cannot make his report to national headquarters without the adjutant's reports and the department expenses cannot be paid without receiving the funds their due from the various sources.

I would, therefore, urge that the post commanders give this duty their personal attention and thereby make the correspondence of the assistant adjutant general much less and enable him to be more prompt in discharging his duties. There have been six general and one special

order issued from department headquarters and sent to the several posts during the year.

It may be interesting and gratifying to know how much has been expended during the year to help our comrades at the south during the terrible epidemic. The amount, although small in comparison to what other states have given, was thankfully received, and we trust it helped in a measure to alleviate their sufferings. As far as has been reported to me the following are the amounts by different posts:

Veteran post No. 5, Nat. Military Home	$20 00
Giddings post No. 7, Jefferson	15 27
Webster post No. 8, Kingsville	7 51
Custer post No. 9, Conneaut	10 00
Trescott post No. 10, Salem	107 50
Austin post No. 11, Austinburg	25 00
Buckley post No. 12, Akron	100 00
Forsythe post No. 15, Toledo	125 00
Total	$410 28

In closing this report and on retiring from the official position which I have had the honor to occupy during the past year, allow me return thanks to you and other department officers, also post commanders and all members of the order, for the uniform courtesy and kindness with which I have been treated at all times; and now with my very best wishes for our noble order, I most respectfully submit this report in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

M. D. Townsend,
Assistant Adjutant General.

The assistant quartermaster general then presented his report as follows:

Commander and Comrades:—I have the honor to make the following statement of the financial affairs of the department during the year 1878:

To balance on hand February 16	$ 8 00
Received for per capita tax	361 60
Received for charters	15 95
Received for supplies	22 74
Total	$408 29
Expended as per vouchers	$349 77
Expenses department encampment	58 52
Total	$408 29

Respectfully submitted,

H. Durkee,
Assistant Quartermaster General

Report accepted and ordered placed on file.

The medical director being absent his report was presented and read by the assistant adjutant general and accepted.

The historian, D. G. Palmer, being unable to be present forwarded his report, which was read and accepted.

The following committees were appointed by the commander:

On Credentials—Comrades M. D. Townsend, W. T. Bull and T. D. McGillicuddy.

On Affairs of the Department—Comrades J. H. Nease, A. F. Sperry and J. S. Kountz.

On Resolutions—Comrades James B. Steedman, J. F. Kumler, M. H. Baldwin and D. M. Fox.

On motion of Chaplain William Earnshaw, the assistant adjutant general was instructed to send congratulations to the department of New York, now in session at Bath, New York. In accordance with the above motion such a message was sent but no reply received.

Comrade Reed, of the National Military Home, then had an opportunity of making some remarks on the subject of organizing a junior order of the G. A. R. His remarks were excellent, and of such a character as to touch the hearts of all comrades and met with the approval of all present. On motion the encampment adjourned till one o'clock, p. m.

The encampment assembled pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the commander.

The committee on credentials reported as follows, showing the posts represented:

Paulus post No. 4, A. F. Sperry, Ashtabula; Veteran post No. 5, E. H. A. Snowwhite, D. F. Giddinger, J. D. Gibson, M. M. Marshall and William Reed, National Military Home, Dayton; Custer post No. 9, D. M. Fox, Conneaut; Trescott post No. 10, C. F. Lease and J. H. Nease, Salem; Austin post No. 11, Samuel McCollough, Austinburg; Buckley post No. 12, A. A. Bartlett and A. Hunsecker, Akron; George H. Thomas post No. 13, W. H. Baldwin, Cincinnati; Ford post No. 14, J. B. Jennings, East Toledo; Forsythe post No. 15, J. S. Kountz, J. W. White, C. L. Young, J. B. Steedman, J. F. Kumler, Chas. Wittich and J. W. Vannetton, Toledo; Bowers post No. 28, Thomas McGovern, Geneva; Sherman post No. 68, Chas. N. Case, Hudson.

Sisgned: W. T. Bull,
Chairman Committee.

The committee on the affairs of the department made the following report, which was read and adopted as follows:

Your committee appointed to examine into the aaffirs of the department have the honor to report that upon examination we find the department to have been well managed.

The officers have performed their respective duties in a manner highly creditable to themselves and valuable to the department. Your commit-

tee respectfully recommend that the charter fee be ten and supplies five dollars and that the sum of ten dollars go to the person organizing a post.

J. H. NEASE,
A. F. SPERRY.
J. S. KOUNTZ,
Committee.

On motion the report was accepted and adopted.

The committee on resolutions, consisting of Generals J. B. Steedman and W. H. Baldwin; Colonels W. F. Kumler and D. M. Fox, made the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the large increase of members in the Grand Army of the Republic, since its last annual encampment, is a matter of congratulation to all true friends of the order.

Resolved, That the great benefits derived from the Grand Army of the Republic by disabled soldiers, and the widows and orphans of our deceased comrades, in the past, justify our earnest efforts for the future success and growth of the order, and that we earnestly invite all honorable soldiers to become members of our order.

Resolved, That the soldiers of Ohio feel the deepest solicitude in the welfare and prosperity of the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home and we earnestly request the general assembly of Ohio to so modify the act, reorganizing said home, as to enable all destitute children of deceased soldiers to receive the benefits of the institution.

Resolved, That the thanks of this encampment be tendered to the officers of the department for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the various duties devolving upon them.

In addition to the above, the committee offered the following preamble and resolutions relative to a bill now pending in congress, providing for an increase of pension in cases where the pension heretofore granted is not sufficient for the support of the person receiving the same:

WHEREAS, It is the experience of all the soldiers who were disabled in the war of the rebellion by the loss of limb or limbs, that the pensions heretofore granted are altogether inadequate for the purpose for which such pensions were allowed, and

WHEREAS, A bill is now pending in the house of representatives at Washington, for the increase of such pensions, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the department of Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of soldiers in the state of Ohio, in convention assembled, that we respectfully but earnestly urge the passage of House Bill No. 3524, entitled a bill to increase pensions in certain cases, as an act of simple justice to the patriotic soldiers who encountered the perils and endured the hardships of war, for the preservation and unity of their country, and we believe it will meet the approval of the patriotic citizens of our whole country.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to our senators and representatives in congress.

A vote of thanks was tendered Gen. A. V. Rice and N. S. Shellenbarger for their efforts in behalf of the pension bill now before congress.

On motion of T. D. McGillicuddy, of post 12, of Akron, the delegates to national encampment were instructed to urge the propriety of the formation of a junior order of the G. A. R. to be composed of sons of soldiers.

The council of administration submitted the following report, which was adopted:

Your committee, with the assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general, find their accounts incomplete, in consequence of detention of reports from subordinate posts. As far as entered the books seem to be correct, vouchers being on hand to cover all expenditures of money. Respectfully submitted,

C. F. Lease,
Chairman Committee.

On motion, Cleveland, Ohio, was selected as the place to hold the next department encampment, in January, 1880:

On motion, Chaplain William Earnshaw was appointed a committee of one to make arrangements with Dr. Keifer for our visit to the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, immediately after our adjournment.

On motion a committee of three, consisting of the following comrades, all of post 15; J. S. Kountz, C. L. Young and J. F. Kumler, were appointed to see that a copy of the resolutions read by Comrade J. B. Steedman be sent to each of our representatives and senators in congress.

After the transaction of other important business, the following officers were elected for the coming year:

Department commander, Gen. Jas. B. Steedman, of Toledo; senior vice commander, C. F. Lease, of Salem; junior vice commander, D. G. Palmer, of Geneva; medical director, J. T. Woods, M. D., of Toledo; chaplain, M. D. Townsend, of Conneaut; assistant adjutant general, Captain J. W. White, of Toledo; assistant quartermaster general, George Sheets, of Toledo; inspector general, W. T. Bull, of Kingsville; chief mustering officer, H. S. Bunker, of Toledo; judge advocate, T. D. McGillicuddy, of Akron; council of administration, J. H. Seymour, post 68, W. H. Baldwin, post 13, A. F. Sperry, post 4, S. McCollough, post 11, J. H. Nease, post 10; delegates to the national encampment, Gen. W. H. Baldwin, of Cincinnati; E. T. Curtiss, of Hudson; alternates, C. W. Karr, of Cincinnati; Col. J. H. Seymour, of Hudson; historian, D. G. Palmer, post 28; assistant historian, Wm. Castle, post 28.

General Steedman made a short speech, relative to the management of the Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, at Xenia, under Major Shaw's administration, and spoke very highly of it. Said he was opposed to and voted against the O'Connor bill, and was opposed to making the orphans' home a political institution. His remarks were well received.

Resolved, That the delegates to the next national encampment be instructed to present the name of Chaplain William Earnshaw for our next commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

On motion the encampment adjourned to visit the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home, and to meet in Cleveland, January, 1880.

The session was a pleasant one, and we hope will tend to advance the interests of our order. The next annual encampment will be held in Cleveland, in January.

JAMES H. SEYMOUR,
Department Commander.

Official:

M. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

UNOFFICIAL BUSINESS.

One important feature of the proceedings was the instruction of the delegates to the national encampment to use their influence and energy before that body to secure the establishment of a junior branch of the G. A. R. This is of particular interest to the boys at the Orphans' Home, and all sons of ex-soldiers.

The subject of looking after the children after they leave the Home, was brought up and the delegates individually pledged themselves to assist and look after the orphans when they go out to do for themselves.

The committee on the affairs of the department, report the organization in good order.

In the afternoon after the adjournment of the encampment, the delegates and their friends went over to visit the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home, which is located one mile from the city of Xenia. We were very kindly received by Dr. Keifer, the Superintendent, and shown through the different departments, thus giving us a good opportunity to inquire into its management, and we spent three hours minutely examining every feature connected with the Home.

There is no class of citizens more deeply interested in the welfare of the orphans than the Grand Army men, and after thoroughly examining that noble institution, the universal expression was that we were highly pleased with the manner in which the home is managed.

It was the Grand Army that gave this institution life, and now they may well congratulate themselves upon the result of their ceaseless energies.

The number of children in the home is 600. They are divided into families of thirty each, and placed in the care of a matron. Their families occupy uniform cottages, which are connected to the main building by a covered walk; also closely connected to the school building, a very fine structure.

The school is of the graded system and second to none in the State.

The children also have a good opportunity of learning various trades in shops and offices on the grounds.

It was an enjoyable sight to me to witness the coming in of these 600 children into the dining hall within the main building. Each matron marched in with her own family and seated them at her table. The system there exhibited, and the uniform attention these little ones paid to the tap of the bell, plainly told that order was one of the first laws of the institution. It was an affecting as well as a pleasing sight. Affecting to witness so many bright little faces — all the way from 3 to 15 years—bereft of a parent's love and care, seated together; yet pleasing to see the kindly attention each received from its respective matron. After witnessing this scene, which we shall never forget, we were escorted to the parlor, where we were entertained by the teachers and matrons, until the superintendent announced that supper was ready for us, and we were ushered into the dining room, and after participating of the hospitalities, we bade them all adieu, and taking Dr. Keifer by the hand, we congratulated him upon the successful management of the home, feeling that he was the right man in the right place.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
ROOM NO. 13, CAMPBELL'S BLOCK.

TOLEDO, OHIO, February 3, 1879.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

I. Having been elected commander of the department at the annual encampment held at Xenia, Ohio, on the 22d January, 1879, I hereby assume the duties devolving upon me.

II. Headquarters for the ensuing year have been established at room 13, Campbell's Block, Toledo, Ohio.

III. Existing orders will remain in force, unless changed from these headquarters.

IV. The following appointments on the official staff of the commander have been made:

Assistant adjutant general, Comrade Josiah W. White, of Forsyth post, No. 15, Toledo.

Assistant quartermaster general, Comrade George Sheets, of Ford post, No. 14, East Toledo.

Inspector, Comrade W. P. Bull, of post No. 8, Kingsville.

Chief mustering officer, Comrade Henry S. Bunker, Forsyth post, No. 15, Toledo.

Judge Advocate, Comrade T. D. McGillicuddy, Buckley post No. 12, Akron.

Comrade Charles P. Chesebro, of Forsyth post No. 15, Toledo, is hereby appointed special aide-de-camp, and detailed as acting assistant adjutant general, and will report for duty at these headquarters.

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

GEN. JAMES B. STEEDMAN.

GENERAL JAMES B. STEEDMAN.

James Blair Steedman was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, on the 29th of July, 1817.

His parents were of Scotch descent and both died while he was yet a boy. At the age of 15, he learned the printer's trade. He was at work in Louisville, Kentucky in Prentice's Journal Office, when he joined Sam Houston's Army in the Texas War.

He was a contractor on public works, built the Wabash and Erie Canal and the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railroad. Was a member of the State Board of Public Works.

In 1847-48 he served in the General Assembly. In 1857 he was elected Major General in the 5th Division of the Ohio State Militia and was commissioned by the Governor, July 8, 1857, and held the office until he entered the War of the Rebellion.

On the firing on Fort Sumter, he immediately organized the 14th Ohio Vol. Inft. and tendered it to the Governor as part of Ohio's quota under Lincoln's call for 75,000 men.

Nine days after the fall of Sumter his regiment was in camp at Cleveland. The details of General Steedman's career in the war of the rebellion would make this memoir too long.

He was one of the first to enter West Virginia and fought at Phillippi, Laurel Hill and Carrick's Ford in the three months' service. He was at Mill Springs, Kentucky, January 21, 1862, when General Zollicoffer was killed.

July 17, 1862, he was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers. September 19-20, 1863, he distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry at the battle of Chickamauga, Georgia, where his horse was shot from under him and requested the reporter that if he was killed to spell his name correctly. He won from his sturdy comrades the soubriquet of "Old Chickamauga." He took active part in the Atlanta campaign. At the battle of Nashville, General Steedman displayed his usual dash and vigor. July 19, 1866, he resigned. January, 1879, General Steedman was elected department commander. He issued his famous stirring order and infused a spirit into the organization which has placed Ohio in the front ranks of the great Soldier fraternity.

In 1887 his life-long friend and fellow townsman, Colonel W. J. Finlay, erected a monument in the city of Toledo, at an expense of $25,000, as a tribute to his memory and in honor of one of the most gallant soldiers that went to the front during the War of the Rebellion.

He died at Toledo, Ohio, October 28th, 1883.

V. Post commanders will, at their next regular encampment, nominate two comrades from each post for aides-de-camp and assistant inspectors, respectively.

VI. In assuming the command of the department to which I have been elevated through the partiality of my comrades, I confidently express the belief the posts in this department will begin the work of the year with renewed zeal in the cause of our glorious order, and prove by their devotion that our organization is worthy of the patriotic efforts of all true soldiers. The work of the Grand Army, its labors and success in assisting and supporting indigent and helpless comrades, their needy families and the widows and orphans of those who periled their lives in defense of the Union—the glorious heritage bequeathed us by the conscript fathers of the republic — should impel every honorable soldier to a renewed effort to increase and strengthen an institution whose only mission is to cherish and perpetuate the memories of the patriotic and heroic services to which the people are indebted for the preservation of the Union. We want, and we feel that we deserve, the "aid and comfort" of the loyal people; and I invoke the earnest support of our comrades, so as to merit the sympathy of all good soldiers, as well as the liberal and patriotic of every class who are ever ready to aid the cause of charity. Every man entitled to wear the badge of our order has a certificate of honorable and devoted service in the defence of his country; and I appeal to all such to lend their influence in promoting the grand work of "Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty" — the motto and crowning glory of the Grand Army of the Republic.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Department Commander.

Official:

JOSIAH W. WHITE,
Assistant Adjutant General.

I certify on honor that the foregoing report is a correct copy from the records in my charge.

T. D. MCGILLICUDDY,
Late A. A. G. Dep't Ohio, G. A. R.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, HELD IN CLEVELAND, OHIO, JANUARY 20 AND 21, 1880.

The annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Ohio, opened in Cleveland, January 20. Delegates from different parts of the state arrived during the day, nearly all of them going to the department headquarters, at the American house. The following is a complete list of officers of the department of Ohio:

General James B. Steedman, department commander, of Toledo; Colonel C. F. Lease, senior vice commander, of Salem; Colonel D. G. Palmer, junior vice commander, of Geneva; Colonel Henry S. Bunker, assistant adjutant general, of Toledo; T. D. McGillicuddy, judge advocate general, Akron; Colonel C. A. Hall, chief mustering officer, of Toledo; Colonel George Sheets, assistant quartermaster general, of Toledo; Colonel T. J. Woods, medical director, of Toledo; Colonel W. T. Bull, inspector general, of Kingsville; Major M. D. Townsend, chaplain, of Conneaut; Colonel D. G. Palmer, historian, of Geneva; Captain William Castle, assistant historian, of Geneva.

Council of administration — J. H. Seymour, of Hudson; W. H. Baldwin, of Cincinnati; A. F. Sperry, of Ashtabula; Samuel McCullough, of Austinburg, and J. H. Lease, of Salem.

Post delegates to the department encampment — Thomas Simmons, E. A. H. Snowwhite, William Thompson and William Perry, of Dayton; A. D. Diserens, George W. Williams, J. C. Michie, W. S. Holden and W. H. Baldwin, of Cincinnati; George B. Spencer, Thomas L. Wood and F. M. Young, of Weston; A. W. Mills and P. C. Ryan, of Amboy; D. H. Myer and James Voech, of Niles; T. D. McGillicuddy, B. F. Manderbach, C. F. Lamb, John Limris and A. A. Bartlet, of Akron; J. B. Petty, H. W. Turner, George W. Hardy, J. P. Woodworth, W. H. Downs, Freeman Thorp, Thomas McGovern, of Geneva; C. F. Mason and S. J. Coan, of Jefferson; C. T. Lease, William Horne, J. H. Nease, J. D. Helmer and F. Webster, of Salem; W. E. Carpenter, of Defiance; T. E. Hoyt, of Ashtabula; J. H. Seymour and E. T. Curtiss, of Hudson; J. S. Kountz, W. R. Clarke, M. J. Enright, B. F. Miller, H. G. Neubert, L. F. Lyttle, E. S. Dodd, A. M. Woolson, T. B. Terry, J. W. Vanetten, C. L. Young and H. Z. Eaton, of Toledo.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

The council of administration convened in the parlors of the American house at four o'clock, with the members named above and the department officers in attendance. General Steedman, who is by virtue

of his position ex-officio member of the council, presided, and adjutant general H. S. Bunker acted as secretary. The business of the council is to audit the accounts of the quartermaster and to make recommendations. On motion W. H. Baldwin, J. H. Seymour and J. T. Woods were appointed a committee to audit the above accounts and report on any measures recommended. After the appointment of this committee the other members of the council and the department officers retired.

At about five o'clock the council again convened, and the chairman read the report of the committee, which was as follows:

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

General JAMES B. STEEDMAN, *Commander of the Department of Ohio, G. A. R.*

COMRADES AND COMMANDER: — We have the honor to submit the following report: We have examined the vouchers and report of the assistant quartermaster general, Comrade George Sheets, and find receipts to have been $796.28; disbursements, $579.52; balance on hand, $216.76; and that all the books, vouchers, and reports are correct.

We cordially recommend that the department encampment take action upon sections Nos. 1, 2, 3, in the department surgeon general's reports, and endeavor to have post surgeons do their duties demanded by general orders, to fill out surgeon's blanks properly and accurately, and that greater promptness be shown in forwarding surgeons' reports to the department headquarters. We further recommend that the encampment now assembled take such action upon sections 1, 2, 3 in surgeon general's report, so as to lay the contents before the national encampment

The attention of all post commanders is called to see for themselves that all reports from each post officer is examined and found correct, and that the same is forwarded promptly each quarter.

It is recommended that the chief mustering officer, or some other officer of officers, under the direction of the department commander, if in his opinion the funds of the department will justify the expenditure, visit such posts of the department as need encouragement and instruction, and endeavor to awaken additional interest in the order; and also to organize new posts whenever practicable.

Respectfully submitted,
W. H. BALDWIN,
J. H. SEYMOUR,
J. T. WOODS,
Committee.

The report of the committee was accepted by the council, and ordered to be presented to the encampment. The council then adjourned.

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

After supper the members of the encampment marched from the American house to the council chamber in the city hall, where the en-

campment was to transact its business. General Steedman occupied the chair, and Adjutant General H. S. Bunker occupied the secretary's chair. Other officers of the encampment occupied seats near the presiding officer.

At 7:30 o'clock General Steedman called the meeting to order, and introduced in a few words Mayor Herrick. The delegates and officers all arose to their feet and saluted the mayor. Mayor Herrick then made the following address:

MAYOR'S ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

GENTLEMEN:—As representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic, it becomes my pleasant duty to extend to you in behalf of the citizens of Cleveland a cordial welcome. Cleveland delights to receive and honor those who in the days of our national distress stood as a wall of fire in her defense. It was the love of country which banded you together then, and the object to be accomplished was the preservation of our republic. It is seldom, however, given to men to unite by natural sympathy in so high and holy an undertaking as the one by means of which you have become cemented together as members of the Grand Army of the Republic. The attachments which grew from a common sacrifice of time, blood and treasure is the bond of your union to-day. It is right that you should meet together and recall that part of our history which you have made, those days in which the fate of the nation for a long time hung in the balance, and but for your courage and patriotic devotion would have fallen into the hands of its destroyers. As we review the past, and recount the deeds which you have done and their importance in sustaining our republican institutions, we cannot do less than bid you a hearty welcome. In the name, therefore, of the city of Cleveland, and in behalf of all her people, I bid you a most hearty welcome, and express the wish that your mission may be one of both pleasure and profit, and that your sojourn here will be so pleasant that you will not have occasion to regret your choice of this city for your meeting.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S RESPONSE.

The address was loudly applauded, and General Steedman responded in a few well-timed remarks. He said the members especially desired to return thanks to the city council, through the mayor, for the use of the council chamber. They were mindful of the fact that this was the first body outside of the council to which the use of the chamber had been granted. He closed by thanking the mayor, city council and the citizens of Cleveland for their uniform kindness to the soldiers.

OPENING ADDRESS.

Mayor Herrick had other meetings to attend, and excused himself, after which General Steedman called the encampment to order for the transaction of regular business. The general made a short opening ad-

dress, in which he said he felt compelled to resign his position as commander, owing to his advancing years. He felt that a younger man would fill the office better and devote more time to it. He was glad to see the Grand Army of the Republic increasing in strength and interest. Politics, he was thankful, were not allowed to enter into the organization. Its success in the past and in the future was and would be upon this one principle. In selecting his staff the general had not questioned the politics of his assistants, although on coming to examine the subject he found they were on the other side from himself. When a good soldier was up for office on the opposite side from himself he always felt as though he would like to see him elected—although he never said so in public. The general concluded by thanking the members for their uniform kindness toward him, and hoped the business of the encampment would be transacted with the best of feeling and with dispatch.

General Steedman suddenly recollected that the opening of the encampment by prayer had been overlooked, and apologized for his oversight. It was suggested that the session be closed by prayer. The business of the encampment was declared to be in order.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The following committees were appointed by the commander:

On Credentials—Comrades C. A. Hall, J. C. Michie, J. H. Seymour, D. W. Thomas and William Horne.

On Affairs of the Department—Comrades M. J. Enright, J. H. Mogue, W. E. Carpenter, Erwin F. Mason and A. W. Mills.

On Resolutions—W. E. Orcott, Geo. W. Williams, T. D. McGillicuddy, Jno. Squires, William Thompson.

CHANGING THE TITLES.

While awaiting the report of the committees, Comrade Baldwin of "G. H. Thomas post," of Cincinnati was called upon for a short talk, and after alluding briefly to the lack of fitness in the titles of the order, made a motion, in accordance with the wishes of his post, that the delegates to the national encampment be instructed to use their efforts to secure a change in the titles more in consonance with the regulations of the army out of which the order has grown.

The minutes of the last encampment of the department were then read by the adjutant general, H. S. Bunker.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee on credentials made the following report:

The following is the basis of representation in the department encampment, as shown by reports from the various posts for the quarter ending September 30, 1879, to-wit:

Name of Post.	Delegates.	Membership.
Paulus, No. 4	1	28
Veteran, No. 5	7	167
Giddings, No. 7	1	33
Webster, No. 8	1	4
Custer, No. 9	1	28
Trescott, No. 10	1	34
Austin, No. 11	1	24
Buckley, No. 12	3	75
G. H. Thomas, No. 13	3	70
Ford, No. 14	2	40
Forsythe, No. 15	10	244
McPherson, No. 16	2	49
Dyer, No. 17	1	37
Lincoln, No. 18	1	25
Neibling, No. 20	2	43
Lytle, No. 21	1	16
Bishop, No. 22	1	28
E. A. King, No. 23	1	29
Bond, No. 24	1	13
Canton, No. 25	1	13
Bowers, No. 28	1	27
Sherman, No. 68	1	15

The proportion of representation in this department is one to every twenty-five members, or a fraction of more than half that number. The post commander is also a delegate by virtue of his office.

The order of business will be as follows:

Roll call of members of the encampment.
Report of officers.
Report of council of administration.
Report of committees.
General business.
Election of officers.

After the reading of the report the secretary called the roll. (The delegates and officers answering to the roll call were the same as given above.)

Adjutant General I. B. Stevens, of the national encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, was called upon to take a seat at the side of General Steedman, and upon being escorted to that chair, made a few encouraging remarks on the progress the Grand Army of the Republic has been making during the past few years.

Colonel E. M. Hessler and Major J. C. Rowland, of Cleveland, formerly adjutant generals of the department of Ohio, were on motion given seats in the encampment.

LETTER OF REGRET.

Commander Steedman stated that he had received the following letter from the past commander of the Ohio encampment:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOME, DAYTON, O.

January 19, 1880.

MAJOR GENERAL JAMES B. STEEDMAN, *Commanding Department of Ohio, G. A. R.:*

MY DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—I exceedingly regret that I cannot be present with you at the department encampment, as I confidently expected to be. The disappointment is a great one to me, for I had anticipated much pleasure in taking by the hand my old comrades representing the different posts in the department. It is only left for me now to congratulate you on the success of the year under your administration, and through you extend fraternal greetings to all the comrades present. And further, to wish you a very successful department encampment.

Yours in F., C. and L.,

WILLIAM EARNSHAW,
Commander-in-Chief.

BUSINESS AND FEASTING.

At ten o'clock a motion was adopted to adjourn for one hour in order to attend a banquet at the American house, tendered the encampment by the soldiers of Cleveland, and on reassembling at eleven o'clock the reports of the assistant adjutant general, the quartermaster general, inspector general, mustering officer, medical director, and from the council of administration were read, and ordered to be spread on the minute,. Each report showed the order to be progressive, and increasing in numbers, eight new posts having been organized the past year, and the membership being increased over 1878 by 500.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.

The encampment reconvened at 10:30 o'clock last evening, in the parlors of the American house. The first business was the reading by the secretary of the report of the assistant adjutant general, which was as follows:

COMRADE JAMES B. STEEDMAN, *Commander Department of Ohio Grand Army of the Republic.*

SIR: As assistant adjutant general I have the honor to submit the following report in regard to the affairs in this department, and of what has been done in the interest of the order during the past year:

At the time you assumed command by virtue of your election as department commander, there were in existence in this department sixteen posts, with an aggregate of 675 members, as shown by the reports of your predecessor for the quarter ending December 31, 1878.

The following posts have been organized during your administration, viz.:

Lincoln post 18, Pierpont, May, 1879.
———— post 19, Dennison, June, 1879.
Neibling post 20, Weston, June, 1879.
Lytle post 21, Wilmington, June, 1879.
Bishop post 22, Defiance, July, 1879.
E. A. King post 23, Dayton, November, 1879.
Bond post 24, Grand Rapids, December, 1879.
Canton post 25, Canton, December, 1879.

A gain of eight posts, and the reports for quarter ending December 31, 1879, show a total membership of 1,167, a gain of 492 over the year 1878.

And on the 31st of December, 1879, there were in existence in this department twenty-four posts. Since that time post 19 has surrendered its charter after having made up all reports complete and paying the per capita tax.

During the past year there has been received by the assistant adjutant general for

Per capita tax	$522 00
Supplies sold	194 03
Charters	80 00
Exchange on draft refunded	25
Total	$796 28

Which sum has been turned over to the assistant quartermaster general, as will be shown by his books and reports, and shows an excess of receipts for 1879 over 1878 of $168.61. Reports for the past year show the sum of $882.04 expended for the relief of those of our members or the families of comrades, and of this sum Forsythe post No. 15 alone has expended $609.91, or nearly 75 per cent of the whole amount.

The former assistant adjutant general Comrade White was relieved from duty as assistant general at his own request, March 31, 1879, but it was not until about the 15th of April that the books and papers were turned over to me, so that as assistant adjutant general I could begin to push the work of organizing posts. I found no funds in the hands of the assistant quartermaster and the department in debt to national headquarters in the sum of $45.92 for supplies furnished during the year 1878. I have the pleasure of saying, however, that at this time the department of Ohio is out of debt and has a small balance in the hands of the assistant quartermaster general.

The newly organized posts appear to be animated with the true spirit of fraternity, charity and loyalty, and numerically they are strong. All posts seem to be prosperous, and I see no reason why, during the coming year, a larger increase than ever before may not be made. The high privilege that only those who, when our country was in peril, responded to the call for soldiers to defend the old flag enjoy becoming members of the Grand Army, and as the years go on and we grow less in numbers, will be more appreciated, fraternal ties become dearer, and the friendship for old comrades grows stronger. Our meetings have a greater interest, and will continue to do so until the last member is mustered and answers to the final roll-call.

I have thought it proper in connection with this report to speak a word in favor of the *Grand Army Gazette*, a periodical devoted exclusively to the interests of our order, and the only one of the kind to my knowledge in the United States. The publisher, J. A. Joel, 84 Nassau street, New York, is an old soldier and an Ohio man, having served during the last three years of the war as a member of the 23d Ohio Infantry regiment. He needs and is deserving of the support of every member of the Grand Army of the Republic. The subscription to his paper is only one dollar per annum, and the columns of this paper are filled with reading matter both pleasing and profitable, and I hope every member of the Grand Army of the Republic in Ohio will promptly subscribe for it for the year 1880.

My thanks are especially due to Comrade Cheesbro, adjutant and acting assistant general; J. T. Woods, medical director; C. A. Hall, chief mustering officer; T. D. McGillicuddy, judge advocate general, and W. T. Bull, inspector general; for official courtesies and assistance; also to D. F. Giddinger for services in meeting Lytle post at Wilmington, and to I. B. Stevens, adjutant general, for organizing and mustering E. A. King post at Dayton, and for their hearty co-operation in whatever would serve the interests of the order, and in every instance I have found post commanders, adjutants and quartermasters heartily interested in the work, and my correspondence with them has been of a most pleasing and satisfactory character.

The delay in furnishing quarterly reports on the part of some of the post commanders is a matter of great annoyance and severe regret, and might be easily avoided by a little personal attention on the part of commanders. They owe it to the position they hold, to the department headquarters and the order of which they are members, to see to it that reports are promptly and correctly made out and transmitted.

In conclusion I desire to thank you personally for kindly consideration and co-operation in all things that would advance the interests of the order which you have at all times had at heart and sought to promote.

HENRY S. BUNKER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

The assistant adjutant general informed the encampment that the following delegates were present:

Post No. 4, T. E. Hugh; post No. 5, William Thomas; post No. 7, E. F. Mason; post No. 8, M. W. Wright; post No. 9, A. W. Mills, P. C. Ryan, M. D. Townsend; post No. 10, W. Hour, C. F. Lease, J. H. Lease, F. W. Webster; post 11, W. E. Orcutt, J. H. McClure, T. C. Brown; post No. 12, B. F. Mandebagh, T. D. McGillicuddy, C. F. Lamb, D. W. Thomas; post No. 13, W. H. Baldwin, George W. Williams, Albert Desemas, T. C. Mitchell; post No. 14, J. B. Jinnings, George Sheets, S. Brown, J. Squires; post No. 15, J. S. Kountz, J. W. Vannito, C. L. Young, H. Z. Eaton, T. B. Terry; W. R. Clark, A. M. Woolson, E. S. Dodd, L. F. Lyttle, J. C. Purds, M. Loenshal, H. S. Bunker, J. T. Woods, C. N. Hall, J. B. Steedman, B. F. Miller, H. G. Newbert, C. A. Hall; post No. 16, D. H. Mogul, Jacob Holzbagh; post No. 17, W. A. Coleman, A. D. Crawford; post No. 20, G. B. Spencer, T. L. Wood, F. M. Young; post No. 22, W. E. Carpenter; post No. 28, D. Palmer, J. B. Petty, Thomas McParrin, J. H. Seymour.

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

Assistant Quartermaster General George Scheets read his report which was as follows:

To GENERAL J. B. STEEDMAN, *Department Commander, and Comrades Department Encampment, Cleveland, Ohio:*

COMRADES:—I have the honor to submit my report of the business of this office from April 19, 1879, the date on which the books and papers were turned over to me by Comrade Henry S. Bunker, assistant adjutant general, to-wit:

RECEIPTS.

For per capita tax as per detailed statement	$522 00
For charter fees	80 00
For supplies	194 28
Total receipts	$796 28

DISBURSEMENTS.

Salary assistant adjutant general	$100 00
Per capita tax to national headquarters first, second, and third quarters	35 66
Expenses mustering officers mustering new posts	39 05
Office expenses assistant adjutant general	36 78
Office expenses assistant quartermaster general	5 00
Office expenses assistant inspector general	9 72
Paid adjutant general Farley for supplies	128 59

Paid adjutant general Stevens for supplies	120 47
Paid Montgomery & Vrooman, printing	23 75
Paid expenses Delegate Baldwin to national encampment	52 00
Paid expenses Commander Earnshaw to national encampment	28 50
Total	$579 52
Balance on hand	216 76
	$796 28

All the vouchers to the above statement accompany this report.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

GEORGE SCHEETS,

Assistant Quartermaster General, Department of Ohio, G. A. R.

Submitted to the council of administration, and on motion approved

H. S. BUNKER,

Assistant Adjutant General.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S REPORT.

Judge Advocate General T. D. McGillicuddy read the following as his report:

GEN. JAMES B. STEEDMAN, *Department Commander:*

COMRADE:—I have the honor in accordance with the rules and regulations, to present this my annual report. I have been called upon to pass but on one case. George H. Thomas post No. 13, of Cincinnati, had an application for honorary membership from a lady who had done good service and endured great hardships for the union during the late war, and was at one time a member of Lincoln post, of that city, and asks if she is eligible. Article IV, chapter 1, page 4, rules and regulations, clearly define the eligibility of membership in the G. A. R. Honorary membership in a secret organization is an innovation on the time honored usages of the past and not recognized by the laws or usages of any.

While I recognize the patriotic devotion of the loyal women of our nation during the dark days of the rebellion, and fully appreciate their continued efforts and services in honor of our departed comrades on each recurring memorial day and while I would gladly extend to them the right hand of fellowship and cheerfully welcome them within our sacred borders, yet I have a sacred duty to perform.

The order of the Grand Army of the Republic is a secret organization, with countersigns, test signs and grips, and as honorary membership usually implies admission fees, yearly dues and an attendance to and on invitation a participation in its deliberations, all this would be direct conflict with the spirit and letter of our organization.

This lady applicant may have done good service in the suppression of the rebellion, as a nurse in the hospital and agent in the sanitary

and christian commissions, but as she does not come in the class of persons whom our regulations make eligible to membership, I am of the opinion that a woman is ineligible to honorary membership in the G. A. R.

All of which is respectfully submitted in F., C. and L

T. D. McGillicuddy,
Judge Advocate, Dept. of Ohio, G. A. R.

SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT.

Surgeon General J. T. Woods read his report as medical director, which was as follows:

General James B. Steedman, *Commander Department of Ohio, G. A. R.*

Sir:—I have the honor to present the accompanying tabulation of the surgical reports received from Neibling, Lincoln, Ford, Bishop, Dyer, Austin, Veteran, Forsythe, Paulus, Buckley, Custer, Trescott and Bowers posts of this department.

In doing so I cannot refrain from calling attention to its incompleteness and hence its utter worthlessness. The reports from posts were received so late that no time was left in which to return for correction, and nothing could be done but to tabulate the furnished data.

In this connection there are certain points to which I deem it proper to call attention. A general appreciation of the subject may be gathered from the fact that of the twenty-three posts in this department only twelve made any form of surgical report. Of these six were an apology only, and of the remainder only a few were perfect.

It has occurred to me that if these surgical records are of any value they should be scrupulously accurate, full and complete. To this end I venture to suggest:

1. That the blanks for the post surgeons' reports are fatally defective in the want of space in columns 12 and 13. In them the character of wounds and their results should be fully stated, which is impossible in the space allotted.

2. I believe it to be a fact that members are generally admitted without any record of their wounds and injuries being made. Hence the surgeon has no recorded data from which to prepare the required report.

3. To insure the recording of this data it should be made illegal to muster a recruit unless it has been recorded by or for the post surgeon, and attention is called to the inclosed blank form of application, on the back of which is a tabulated list of questions to be answered and verified by or for the post surgeons. The form was adopted by post No. 15, but I am informed by its adjutant that no attention has been paid to the method, and this report for the year is in consequence a complete blank.

4. If post commanders could be induced to demand the yearly report of the surgeon and give it his personal attention to the extent

of seeing and knowing that the form is correctly and completely filled before forwarding, and finally that the document be forwarded in time for return for correction in case of error, the object of this inquiry into the history of wounded and disabled comrades could be attained.

Without urgent and stringent measures be adopted and enforced they must be a valueless form only.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, etc.

J. T. Woods,
Medical Director, Department of Ohio.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Chaplain M. D. Townsend submitted the following report:

James B. Steedman, *Commander Department of Ohio, G. A. R.*

As chaplain of the department of Ohio I would respectfully submit the following report:

As I have not been called upon to perform any duties as chaplain, my report, of necessity, must be very brief.

In compliance with the rules and regulations and custom of our noble order, the 30th of May was generally well observed throughout our department in decorating the graves of those who have gone to their reward, having fought their last battles.

I feel it is my duty to acknowledge our obligations to the ladies throughout the department for their valuable assistance.

The fingers that prepared various articles for the comfort of our sick and wounded comrades during the dark days of the rebellion now show their readiness to shape into forms of beauty the gifts of nature to decorate the graves of our dead.

No other organization or society lives more fully up to its principles than the Grand Army of the Republic. No tie other than that of home or family is as strong as our band of fraternity, and I hope to see this tie grow stronger and stronger, and bind in closer union and sympathy the hearts of our comrades, as our numbers are lessened year by year. I feel that the principles of charity are exemplified by the various posts in our department by their many acts of kindness shown to the worthy soldier who is in need of assistance, and the widows and orphans of our late comrades.

No sentiment or feeling antagonistic to our government or union is ever allowed a lurking place in the heart of any member of our order, and all stand ready to carry out the crowning principles of loyalty.

In retiring from this office, allow me, comrades, to return my sincere thanks to you for every expression of confidence in me. And finally I would say, God bless the Grand Army and the republic our comrades fought so bravely to preserve. And when the storms of life are over, and the last of our number are laid to rest, may the glorious old flag we love so dearly still float over our mighty republic, which we pray

will still remain undivided, and become the most powerful nation of the world.

Respectfully submitted, in fraternity, charity and loyalty,

M. D. Townsend,
Chaplain Department of Ohio, G. A. R.

The inspector general presented his report, which was in detail a counterpart of that of the adjutant general and was not read.

All of the above report were approved and ordered spread upon the minutes.

General Steedman took occasion to thank Inspector Bull personally for his unselfish efforts in securing in a great measure the success of the present encampment. On motion a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered Comrade Bull.

On motion of Comrade Seymour the attention of the national encampment was respectfully called to sections 1, 2 and 3 of the report of the council of administration.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AFFAIRS OF THE ORDER.

The report of the committee on affairs of the order was submitted as follows:

Your committee on affairs of the department respectfully report that they find the affairs of the department in a flourishing condition, the manner in which the books and accounts of the department officers are kept being systematic and business-like, the financial condition of the department prosperous, and the numerical strength constantly increasing.

They desire to recommend that the present encampment pass some rule or make some by-law looking toward the more stringent enforcement of the rule requiring reports from posts to department officers, who complain of considerable negligence in post quartermasters and post commanders in forwarding reports. They also recommend that the officers elected for the ensuing year use special diligence in organizing posts, especially in the following cities, whose population warrants the belief that prosperous posts may be organized.

Respectfully submitted,

M. J. Enright,
W. E. Carpenter,
C. F. Mason.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

George W. Williams, of Cincinnati, made the following report for the committee on resolutions:

Resolved, That the soldiers' and sailors' orphans' home at Xenia, Ohio, is at once the fulfillment of the pledge and prophecy made by the people of Ohio, upon the threshold of the war for the union, to care for

the orphans of the brave men who immolated their lives upon the broad altar of national patriotism and integrity to the union.

Resolved, That we respectfully request the legislature of Ohio to place this noble home high upon the firm rock of the people's gratitude to their fallen heroes, where the angry and dirty waters of political strife cannot reach it.

Resolved, That, as comrades, we cannot forget the devotion of our heroic dead to fraternity, charity and loyalty; and that we will ever keep inviolate our pledge to defend and protect their orphans.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this encampment that the bill now pending before congress for the equalization of bounties is just and right, and should be passed.

Resolved, That while our order is rapidly growing, yet there is reason for regret that it is not larger, for we believe it the duty of every comrade who fought for the union to become a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Traitors may be received back into the congress and help make laws for the country they once tried to destroy, but there is one place traitors cannot come. The G. A. R. receives into its ranks only true and loyal men, who served their country faithfully and were honorably discharged.

Resolved, That the members of the order in Ohio have just cause to feel encouraged at the advance it has made during the past year, and it is the sense of this encampment that the soldier of the war of the rebellion who has the memory of his late comrades in arms at heart should identify himself with the order.

Resolved, That the thanks of the encampment are due and are hereby tendered the department officers of the past year for their duties, and that to their enfficiency is largely due the unexampled increase in the membership and the prosperity of the order in the department of Ohio.

Resolved, That the thanks of this encampment be and they are hereby returned to the mayor of this city for his generous address of welcome; to the citizens of Cleveland for their hospitality, and to the city council for the use of their beautiful hall.

Resolved, That the house of representative's bill No. 3524, known as the "Shellenbarger bill," increasing pensions in certain cases, is a just measure and should be promptly passed.

W. E. Orcutt, *Chairman.*
Geo. W. Williams, *Sec'y,*
T. D. McGillicuddy,
J. Squire,
William Thompson,
Committee.

GENERAL STEEDMAN OBJECTS.

Pending the adoption of these resolutions General Steedman left his chair and made an objection to the resolution referring to the admission of rebel soldiers to congress—"traitors may be received back into congress and help make the laws for the country they once tried to destroy,

but there is one place traitors cannot come." He thought that was a direct fling at a certain political party, and if passed would prohibit men of that political persuasion from joining the Grand Army of the Republic. He said if the resolution was carried he could not act with the Grand Army of the Republic himself.

Representative Williams asked for an opportunity to explain the import of the resolution as he had drafted it. He said nothing political was intended. What was meant was that a rebel could obtain admission to almost any body in the country but the Grand Army of the Republic. It was not a fling at any political party, and he did not favor striking it out.

General Steedman continued his objection, and after a warm speech moved that the resolution be struck out. The motion was seconded and discussed at length. Mr. Williams finally withdrew the resolution, still affirming that it expressed his sentiments exactly. The report of the committee was then unanimously adopted.

A BANQUET ANNOUNCED.

A delegate announced that a banquet had been prepared at the American House, and was now waiting to be served. General Steedman suggested that there was nothing the encampment would rather take action on than a banquet. A motion to adjourn created some discussion, as some of the delegates wished to finish the business before adjourning. A motion to call the roll on the motion was not considered, General Steedman holding that to call the roll would consume more time than to "eat the banquet." A vote being taken, the motion to adjourn was lost, and the business was proceeded with

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was next in order. For commander, E. S. Dodd nominated Col. L. F. Lyttle of Toledo in an eloquent speech. Comrade T. E. Hoyt followed with the nomination of Col. D. W. Thomas. Comrade George W. Williams nominated General William H. Baldwin. Captain Rettee seconded the nomination of Colonel Thomas. The ballot was taken by calling the roll of posts, and resulted as follows:

Lyttle, 24; Thomas, 7; Baldwin, 31; total 62.

There being no choice another ballot was taken, with the following result:

Baldwin, 30; Lyttle, 24; Thomas, 8; total 62.

Still there was no choice, and a third ballot was about to be taken, when a question was raised as to the legality of the votes of members of the national encampment staff. On looking up the law General Steedman decided that such members could not vote and the ballots so far taken were void. Under this ruling the next ballot was taken, as follows:

Baldwin, 29; Lyttle, 24; Thomas, 6; total 59.

Neither candidate having a majority, the fourth ballot was taken: Baldwin, 29; Lyttle, 0; Thomas, 30; total 59.

The result was received with cheers by the Lyttle delegates.

On motion the vote was made unanimous.

General Steedman introduced the newly-elected commander, in response to calls for him. Colonel Thomas, in a brief speech, returned thanks, and assured them of his devotion to the grand objects of the Grand Army of the Republic.

It being now 1 o'clock a motion was made to adjourn till 9 o'clock this morning, but it was voted down by taking a rising vote.

The election of other officers resulted as follows:

Senior vice commander, W. T. Bull, of Cleveland; junior vice commander, Samuel McCullough; medical director, D. G. Palmer, of Geneva; chaplain, M. D. Townsend, of Conneaut; council of administration, J. H. Seymour, George W. Kelley, G. B. Spencer, E. F. Mason, J. B. Kilburn; delegates to the national encampment, George W. Williams, of Cincinnati, and F. M. Young, of Weston; alternates, C. F. Lease, of Salem, and Thomas McGovern. Comrade D. G. Palmer was elected historian for the coming year and W. H. Castles, assistant historian.

NEXT ENCAMPMENT.

The place for the next meeting was the question next discussed—Cincinnati and Columbus. The delegates from the first named place declined the honor, and Columbus was chosen.

The installation of officers came next, but it being 2 o'clock, a recess was taken till 9 o'clock this morning, when the ceremony will be performed.

The members of the Ohio department of the Grand Army of the Republic in the city came together at the American house on Wednesday forenoon, when the final meeting was held. General James B. Steedman called the delegates to order, after which the department books and papers, so far as possible, were turned over to the officers elected Tuesday night for the coming year. The tax for the year was fixed at sixty cents per member, the same as that of last year.

After the installation of the newly elected officers, Commander D. W. Thomas made the following staff appointments:

Assistant adjutant general, T. D. McGillicuddy, of Akron; assistant quartermaster general, C. F. Lamb, Akron; department inspector, J. M. Weaver, Dayton; judge advocate general, H. S. Bunker, Toledo; chaplain, M. D. Townsend, Conneaut; chief mustering officer, P. W. Stanhope, Cincinnati.

The commander-elect, adjutant general, and quartermaster general were requested to take into consideration the advisability of selecting some one to visit different parts of the state to present the benefits of the Grand Army of the Republic to soldiers, and establish new posts.

The department commander, Colonel Thomas, was requested to call the attention of posts in his jurisdiction to section 2, article 2 of the rules and regulations. This section relates to charitable work.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Department Commander.

HENRY S. BUNKER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

J. S. CLEMMER, SALEM, OHIO,

Late Major 29th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Senior Vice-Commander Department of Ohio, G. A. R.

T. D. McGILLICUDDY, CLEVES, OHIO,

Late Captain Company K, 50th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and Assistant Adjutant-General Department of Ohio, G. A. R.

APPENDIX.

OFFICERS' DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

1866.

Provisional Department Commander—B. F. Potts ..... Carrollton.
Assistant Adjutant General—B. F. Hawkes.... North Fairfield.

1867.

Department Commander—Thomas L. Young... Cincinnati.
Senior Vice Department Commander—H. B. Banning ..... Cincinnati.
Junior Vice Department Commander—James Barnett ..... Cleveland.
Assistant Adjutant General—B. F. Hawkes.... North Fairfield.
Assistant Quartermaster General—Wesley C. Hickman ..... Cincinnati.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

W. R. Warnock, J. W. Lindsey, D. W. Shockley,
M. R. Bailey. C. F. Manderson.

1868.

Department Commander—J. Warren Keifer... Springfield.
Senior Vice Department Commander—Gustav Tafel ..... Cincinnati.
Junior Vice Department Commander—O. L. McClung ..... Delaware.
Assistant Adjutant General—W. J. Winter.... Springfield.
Assistant Quartermaster General—John S. Kountz ..... Toledo.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Frederick Miller ..... Marietta.
J. S. McCammon..... Chillicothe.
Ashley Brown ..... Dayton.
Col. Wm. Given..... Wooster.
T. C. Campbell..... Cincinnati.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Theodore Huntenrath,	M. P. Gaddis,
C. H. Blackburn,	Geo. L. Childs,
James Barnett,	Charles Steedman.

1869.

Department Commander — J. Warren Keifer...	Springfield.
Senior Vice Department Commander — Robert M. Moore	Cincinnati.
Junior Vice Department Commander — O. L. McClung	Delaware.
Assistant Adjutant General — W. J. Winter....	Springfield.
Assistant Quartermaster General — A. C. Deuel.	Urbana.
Chaplain — Wm. Earnshaw	Dayton.
Inspector General — Geo. W. Collier.....	Toledo.
Surgeon General — Col. Kirkpatrick.....	Hamilton.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Ashley Brown	Dayton.
J. L. Smith.....	Soldiers' Homes.
P. O. Connell.....	Dayton.
Thomas W. Hefferman.....	Cincinnati.
Nathaniel Houghton	Toledo.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

T. C. Morris.....	Alliance.
J. A. Chase.....	Toledo.
G. W. Chersell.....	Henrysburg.
U. S. Wise.....	Van Wert.
W. A. Baldwin.....	Cincinnati.
E. F. Taylor.....	Zanesville.
W. J. Winter.....	Springfield.
H. G. Armstrong.....	Cincinnati.
William Steedman	Ravenna.
James T. Longsworth.....	Oxford.

1870.

Department Commander — J. Warren Keifer...	Springfield.
Senior Vice Department Commander — William C. Bunts	Cleveland.
Junior Vice Department Commander — Samuel Eaton	Cincinnati.
Assistant Adjutant General — W. J. Winter....	Springfield.
Assistant Quartermaster General — J. H. Robinson	Kenton

Chaplain — Wm. Earnshaw ..... Dayton.
Judge Advocate General — U. L. Marvin..... Akron.
Inspector General — Geo. W. Collier..... Fremont.
Medical Director — J. B. Thomas..... Dayton.

Council of Administration.

W. E. Parmelee ..... Toledo.
H. P. Wolcott..... Ashtabula.
R. M. Moore..... Cincinnati.
J. S. Clemmer..... Salem.
J. Longstreth ..... Oxford.

Delegates to National Encampment.

H. B. Banning..... Cincinnati.
Theodore Voges ..... Cleveland.
Geo. W. Collier..... Fremont.
C. A. Vaughn..... Geneva.
James A. Lantz..... Akron.

1871.

Department Commander — William C. Bunts... Cleveland.
Senior Vice Department Commander — J. B. Thomas ..... Soldiers' Home, Dayton.
Junior Vice Department Commander — J. S. Clemmer ..... Salem.
Assistant Adjutant General — E. M. Hessler.... Cleveland.
Assistant Quartermaster General — Theo. Voges. Cleveland.
Medical Director — Geo. W. Boyd..... Xenia.
Department Chaplain — William Earnshaw..... Dayton.

Council of Administration.

John A. Hivling..... Xenia.
J. H. Seymour ..... Hudson.
J. N. Allen..... Maumee City.
C. A. Vaughn..... Geneva.
J. Armstrong ..... Alliance.

Delegates to National Encampment.

J. Warren Keifer..... Springfield.
J. O. McGowan..... Steubenville.
W. E. Parmelee..... Toledo.
C. O. Driscoll..... Soldiers' Home.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Theo. Voges	Cleveland.
T. C. Boone	Salem.
Geo. A. Blocher	Dayton.
O. C. Wilson	Sylvania.

1872.

Department Commander — William C. Bunts	Cleveland.
Senior Vice Department Commander — J. W. Smith	Toledo.
Junior Vice Department Commander — J. S. Clemmer	Salem.
Assistant Adjutant General — E. M. Hessler	Cleveland.
Assistant Quartermaster General — Theo. Voges	Cleveland.
Department Chaplain — William Earnshaw	Soldiers' Home.
Medical Director — Geo. W. Boyd	Xenia.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

J. H. Seymour	Hudson.
W. D. Moone	Sylvania.
Geo. A. Blocher	Dayton.
H. B. Wolcott	Geneva.
E. M. Culver	Sandusky.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

M. J. Enright	Toledo.
C. A. Vaughn	Geneva.
Gen. J. Warren Keifer	Springfield.
Geo. A. Blocher	National Mil. Home, Dayton.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

M. S. Gunckel	Dayton.
J. K. Hamilton	Toledo.
S. C. Williamson	Akron.
S. C. Coe	Cleveland.

1873.

Department Commander — G. M. Barber	Cleveland.
Senior Vice Department Commander — J. S. Clemmer	Salem.
Junior Vice Department Commander — M. S. Gunckel	Dayton.
Assistant Adjutant General — J. C. Roland	Cleveland.

Assistant Quartermaster General — Theo. Voges. Cleveland.
Department Chaplain — William Earnshaw..... Dayton.
Medical Director — Geo. W. Boyd..... Xenia.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

E. F. Brown..... Dayton.
O. Klemm..... Toledo.
C. L. Russell..... Cleveland.
J. H. Seymour..... Hudson.
C. A. Vaughn ..... Geneva.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Clarence Morris ..... Toledo.
C. L. Russell..... Cleveland.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

J. H. Seymour..... Hudson.
J. B. Thomas..... Dayton.

1874.

Department Commander — G. M. Barber..... Cleveland.
Senior Vice Department Commander — J. S. Clemmer ..... Salem.
Junior Vice Department Commander — D. W. Thomas ..... Akron.
Assistant Adjutant General — J. C. Roland..... Cleveland.
Assistant Quartermaster General — Theo. Voges. Cleveland.
Department Chaplain — William Earnshaw..... Dayton.
Medical Director — J. Armstrong..... Alliance.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

E. F. Brown..... Dayton.
Jas. P. Woodworth..... Geneva.
J. H. Seymour..... Hudson.
R. B. Crawford..... Massillon.
T. C. Boone..... Salem.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

T. C. Boone..... Salem.
B. F. Miller..... Toledo.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

J. Armstrong ..... Alliance.
J. H. Seymour..... Hudson.

1875.

Department Commander—Alvin C. Voris..... Akron.
Senior Vice Department Commander—J. S. Clemmer ..... Salem.
Junior Vice Department Commander—D. W. Thomas ..... Akron.
Assistant Adjutant General—U. L. Marvin..... Akron.
Assistant Quartermaster General—T. D. McGillicuddy ..... Akron.
Department Chaplain—William Earnshaw..... Dayton.
Medical Director—J. Armstrong..... Alliance.

Council of Administration.

J. H. Seymour..... Hudson.
J. B. Hunt..... Geneva.
C. A. Hall..... Toledo.
Geo. A. Blocher..... Dayton.
R. B. Crawford..... Massillon.

Delegates to National Encampment.

T. D. McGillicuddy..... Akron.
E. T. Curtiss..... Hudson.

Alternates to National Encampment.

T. C. Boone..... Salem.
M. J. Enright..... Toledo.

1876.

Department Commander—William Earnshaw... Dayton.
Senior Vice Department Commander—J. S. Clemmer ..... Salem.
Junior Vice Department Commander—T. D. McGillicuddy ..... Akron.
Assistant Adjutant General—Geo. A. Blocher.. Dayton.
Assistant Quartermaster General—D. F. Giddinger ..... Dayton.
Department Chaplain—Geo. W. Collier..... Sandusky.
Medical Director—James M. Weaver..... Dayton.

Council of Administration.

E. F. Brown..... Dayton.
C. A. Hall..... Toledo.
D. W. Thomas..... Akron.
C. F. Lease..... Salem.
J. B. Petty..... Geneva.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

H. G. Neubert..... Toledo.
T. C. Boone..... Salem.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

U. L. Marvin..... Akron.
J. M. Weaver..... Dayton.

1877.

Department Commander — William Earnshaw... Dayton.
Senior Vice Department Commander — J. S. Clemmer ..... Salem.
Junior Vice Department Commander — J. B. Petty ..... Geneva.
Assistant Adjutant General — Geo. A. Blocher.. Dayton.
Assistant Quartermaster General — D. F. Giddinger ..... Dayton.
Department Chaplain — Geo. W. Collier..... Sandusky.
Medical Director — James M. Weaver..... Dayton.
Historian — G. D. Palmer..... Geneva.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

D. G. Palmer..... Geneva.
C. A. Hall..... Toledo.
D. W. Thomas..... Akron.
W. T. Bull..... Kingsville.
W. G. Bentley..... Salem.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Thomas C. Boone..... Salem.
Isaac B. Stevens..... Dayton.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

M. D. Townsend..... Conneaut.
D. F. Giddinger..... Dayton.

1878.

Department Commander — Nathan L. Guthrie.. Conneaut.
Senior Vice Department Commander — Jas. H. Seymour ..... Hudson.
Junior Vice Department Commander — D. F. Giddinger ..... Dayton.
Assistant Adjutant General — M. D. Townsend.. Conneaut.
Assistant Quartermaster General — Albert Durkee Conneaut.

Department Chaplain — Rev. Thomas Powell... Ashtabula.
Medical Director — S. S. Barrows..... Geneva.
Historian — D. G. Palmer..... Geneva.
Assistant Historian — Wm. Castle.....

Council of Administration.

C. A. Hall..... Toledo.
C. F. Lease..... Salem.
D. G. Palmer ..... Geneva.
T. D. McGillicuddy..... Akron.
M. D. Townsend..... Conneaut.

Delegates to National Encampment.

A. F. Sperry..... Ashtabula.
James M. Weaver..... Dayton.

Alternates to National Encampment.

Isaac B. Stevens..... Dayton.
M. J. Enright..... Toledo.

1879.

Department Commander — James B. Steedman.. Toledo.
Senior Vice Department Commander — C. F. Lease ..... Salem.
Junior Vice Department Commander — D. G. Palmer ..... Geneva.
Assistant Adjutant General — Josiah W. White. Toledo.
Assistant Quartermaster General—George Sheets Toledo.
Department Chaplain — M. D. Townsend..... Conneaut.
Medical Director — Dr. T. J. Wood..... Toledo.
Inspector General — W. T. Bull..... Kingsville.
Chief Mustering Officer — H. S. Bunker..... Toledo.
Judge Advocate General — T. D. McGillicuddy.. Akron.

Council of Administration.

Jas. H. Seymour..... Hudson.
W. H. Baldwin..... Cincinnati.
A. F. Sperry..... Ashtabula.
S. McCullough ..... Austinburg.
J. H. Nease..... Salem.

Delegates to National Encampment.

W. H. Baldwin..... Cincinnati.
E. T. Curtiss..... Hudson.

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

C. W. Karr..... Cincinnati.
Jas. H. Seymour..... Hudson.

1880.

Department Commander — D. W. Thomas..... Akron.
Senior Vice Department Commander — W. T. Bull..... Kingsville.
Junior Vice Department Commander — Samuel McCollough..... Austinburg.
Assistant Adjutant General — T. D. McGillicuddy Akron.
Assistant Quartermaster General — C. F. Lamb.. Akron.
Department Chaplain — M. D. Townsend..... Conneaut.
Medical Director — D. G. Palmer..... Geneva.
Department Inspector — J. M. Weaver..... Dayton.
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